



3/20

# Surrey Group Newsletter.

October 2000

## Group Officers

- Chairman.**            **Ann Sayer**  
29 Twickenham Road,  
TEDDINGTON, Middx, TW11 8AQ  
Tel : 020 8977 9495
- Secretary  
and Editor.**        **John Lay**  
Oakcroft, Dartnell Avenue  
WEST BYFLEET, Surrey, KT14 6PL  
Tel : 01932 346596
- Treasurer.**         **Barry Harrison**  
58 Arundel Road,  
KINGSTON upon THAMES, KT1 3RZ  
Tel : 020 8949 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 items 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.

**The Surrey Tops , Walk 1:Haslemere Group. 11th June 2000**

Three men and eight women joined Keith for the first walk of the series which will tackle all forty of Surrey's Tops (those peaks of 150m or more with at least 10m drop all round ).

The party left Haslemere Station on a temperate day ,ideal for walking , by the traditional route for Blackdown, but then diverted to go to the first top: **Fernden Hill (210m)** at the highest bump in the road, they then followed a route including the Sussex Border path to reach **Blackdown Summit (280m)** another top, not in Surrey, but as the highest in West Sussex, it seemed a pity to miss it.

Only much later did Keith reveal, that after further detailed scrutiny of the map, he'd decided that Fernden Hill was also in West Sussex. Still we've now done two of the West Sussex Tops!

We then followed a complicated set of secluded paths via Kingsley Green and Marley Common with lots of climbing, but not to Surrey tops, to the Prince of Wales PH at Hammer Bottom. This is a beautifully situated pub, with the excellent Gales beer with good but dear food. Unfortunately ,the serving of this fare was very slow with four people being forgotten, as the last delivery was a red hot pasta, this took ages to eat! The result was we took eighty minutes there and had to prevent Janet from ordering her usual pudding.

The walk after lunch took some intricate paths ,and one or two unplanned ones, with a little used one through Tyndalis Wood to reach the Hindhead NT cafe only to discover that it had been closed for refurbishment during the previous week! this splendid walker's refreshment cafe will be replaced by a standard dull NT 'Teashop'.

However, we were now on the final stretch: through the Punchbowl and up the twin tops of **Highcombe North (231m )** and **Highcombe South (236m )**, across the A3 for the fourth time ,up the long track to **Gibbet Hill (272m)** Surrey's third highest, with its distant views, then some difficult map work to pass the floor of the old temple and reach the top of **Invall Hill (262m )** our last top and one that none of us had been up before!

We then accepted Dawn and Alison's suggestion and followed another unknown path to reach Bunch Lane and so back to the carpark at Haslemere Station. It had been a hard and quite strenuous nineteen miles with 2300 ft of ascent but everyone said how much they had enjoyed it .....thank you all for coming.

*Keith Chesterton*

Haslemere Linear

Sunday 21st May, 2000

Having travelled through torrential rain to the Cartwright's home, most of us were wondering what further climatic conditions were to be forthcoming. Our leader led nine walkers to Guildford Station where Mike and Dave joined us to board the bus to Haslemere and here we were joined by another walker from the Wessex Group.

It was dry as we set off to cover familiar haunts. Our first viewing stop was **Gibbet Hill** where Anna, a new young lady to our group, was informed of all the sightings by Tony; just before the climb up to **Kettlewell Hill** we had a heavy shower and were allowed to shelter under the trees awhile. I don't know why this was permitted, maybe because visibility was almost nil; we had a drinks stop at the trig point where, to our surprise, Tony spotted some blue sky which later developed into warm sunshine as we continued on our way towards the **Barley Mow** at **Tilford Green**. We enjoyed a good lunch with quick service in the garden; some tasted the dessert delights, while others looked on with interest, later our kindly secretary agreed to give a small teaspoon of his chocolate pudd to the writer in exchange for a sip of her brandy!

The afternoon proved to be fine, apart from a shower while we rested on **Puttenham Common**. Considering the rain, the paths were mostly good underfoot with the occasional muddy area. We continued along the **North Downs Way** to reach **Watts Gallery** for a delicious tea enjoyed in brilliant sunshine.

The brisk pace for the writer did not lessen as we approached the final steep climb up to the aerial mast and on to **Henley Fort** where three of our companions departed for the station, while the rest of the party continued on back to **12 East Meads**.

During the month of May the countryside is at its best, we had some beautiful views and together with stimulating and amusing company, this proved to be a most enjoyable walk. Thank you Tony for a lovely day.

Gillian Bull

*Extract from 'The Art of Walking' by Showell Styles...*

There are techniques to be learnt, even in the simple act of putting one foot in front of the other; worth thinking about when you do it 36000 times in the course of a 20 mile walk.

## PROG

**Sunday 22 October**

**Founders Challenge**

25 miles. Start at Peaslake Memorial Hall at 9.00 am. SAE: Bill Thompson, 86 Lynton Road, Acton, London W3 9HW for entry form. Tel: 0181 992 0891

**Saturday 28 October**

**An Afternoon Around Ashted**

12 miles followed by refreshments from the house of Dave and Pat Challenger, 44 Agates Lane, Ashted GR178577. Start at 12.30. Please advise Dave in advance if you intend to take part. Tel: 01372 277138.

**Sunday 19 November**

**Gillian's Jaunt Revisited**

16 miles. Start 9.00 am from Bourne car park, Virginia Water Station, OS176 GR001678. Pub stop for lunch  
Leader: Gillian Bull, tel: 01344 842508

**Wednesday 6 December**

**The Beauty Spots of Dorking**

17 miles. Start at 8.30 am from car park at Friday Street, OS 187 GR125457. Pub stop for Lunch  
Leader: Michael White, tel: 01306 888886

**Saturday 9 December**

**Xmas Walk and Dinner**

Several miles. Start at 8.45 am from Village Hall, Dunsfold. Dinner is at 7.00 pm at the Sun Inn  
Leader: Mervyn Harvey, tel: 01798 344 309

**Wednesday 27 December**

**Windsor Winter Wander**

12 miles. Start: walkers 9.00 am, runners 10.00 am from RAF car park, Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green, OS175 GR996748. Small charge for route description and mid walk drinks.  
Organiser: Ralph Hanley MABAC Running League, tel: 01784 252104

**Monday 1 January**

**Surrey Inns Karrier**

20 or 12 miles. Start at 9.15 am onwards from St. Catherine's Hall, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford. Entries on day only  
Organiser: John Lay, tel: 01932 346596

**Sunday 14 January**

**Winter Tanners**

30 miles with 20 miles option.  
SAE: John Westcott, 31 Drocken Way, Chobham, Woking, Surrey GU24 8PR

**Thursday 11 January**

**A G M**

Meet 7.30 for 8.00pm at the Perry Arms, Chilworth. Any motions or amendments to the constitution / bye laws must be sent to the group secretary no later than Tuesday 19 December. Slide Show to follow from Keith Chesterton featuring 'KILIMANJARO'

## RAMME

Saturday 20 January Punchbowl Marathon Marshall's Walk  
30 miles Start: 8.00am from Witley Church, Church Lane. Explorer 133 GR947397  
More details from: Keith Chesterton Tel: 01483 . 583362

Thursday 25 January Hice Stream Hop  
16 miles Start: 9.00am from Woking Leisure Centre cp Explorer 145 GR006578  
Pub stop for lunch.  
Leaders: Moly Groundsell Tel: 01483, Elizabeth Bryan Tel: 01483 . 776985

Sunday 4 February Punchbowl Marathon  
See Future Events

Thursday 8 February Farley Farnago  
17 miles Start: 9.00am from Farley Heath cp . Pub stop for lunch. Explorer 145  
GR 051448  
Leader : Dave Challenger Tel: 01372 . 277138

Sat/ Sunday 17/18 February Surrey Summits Marshall's Walk  
62 miles More details from: Reg Chapman Tel: 01276 . 65169

Saturday 3 March Look Out and About  
18 miles Start: 9.00am from Look Out cp Bracknell. Pub stop for lunch.  
Explorer 160 GR876961  
Leader : Richard Ineson Tel: 01344 . 777444

Thursday 15 March Dunsfold Dawdle  
19 miles Start: 9.00am from Sun Inn, Dunsfold. Pub stop for lunch.  
Explorer 134 GR007365.  
Leader : Brian Haigh Tel 01483 . 303020

Sunday 25 March East Surrey Group of Tops  
19 miles Start 9.00am from Botley Hill cp Pub stop for lunch  
Explorer 146 GR328555 This is the second of a series of walks to climb all 41 tops  
over 150m in Surrey ( 7 today ).  
Leader : Keith Chesterton Tel : 01483 . 583362

Sunday 22 April Thursley Trot  
21 miles Start: 9.30am from Godalming Station cp catch train to Haslemere for line  
walk back. Pub stop for lunch. Explorer 145 GR906439  
Leader : Phil Green Tel: 01483 . 276634

## The Millenium 100

### Marshals Walk

29thApril/1stMay

There were three phases of hosting this year where thanks must be extended. First the Marshals walk on the 29thApril/1stMay when the Surrey Group hosted the finish. This was a very long exercise, from 1600hrsSunday to 0800hrsMonday. Thanks go to Reg Chapman, John & Gail Erick, Molly Groundsell, John Lay, Martin Tringham, and John Westcott. A big thank you also to Janet & John Whiteman, two of our members who travelled from the Isle of Wight to support us.

CP8:63.8 miles

Breakfast at Wye Village Hall, Kent

27th/29thMay

Host Groups:

Surrey and London

Some of our members could not keep away from Wye Villag Hall, returning for a second dose of marshalling, this time at the end of May for the main event. Special thanks go to John Lay, Reg Chapman, John Westcott, and Molly Groundsell for their double efforts, also supportig the checkpoint were Phil Green who started his shift at 0400hrs on the Sunday morning, to be joined at intervals up to 0800hrs by: Peter & Elaine Edwards, Ken Styan, Julie Welch, Peter & Betty Waterhouse, John Robinson, Peter Saunders, and Avril Stapleton. Oh! and I nearly forgot, I was there as well.

Our friends from London Group: Kathy Loras, Rob Myers, Alan Rogers (the chef), Bill Thompson, Dave Williams, and Tricia Hewitt, with support from Reg Chapman and Ann Sayer opened the proceedings at 2200hrs on Saturday; however, because of the appalling floods no walker arrived until 0130hrs.

Now, I am sure that those of you who chose to spend your weekend elsewhere will want to know what fun you missed. Well, there was mud, more mud, wet bodies, more wet bodies, wet socks, wet shoes, soggy undergarments, nothing was sacred, not even the bottom, all this was mixed together with an English breakfast. The Marshals Walk was tough with glutinous mud all the way, but to quote a participant, the main event was 'gruesome'.

You could have participated in frying eggs, bacon, or making porridge for 400; brewing tea and coffee, making toast, laying tables, cleaning tables, scrubbing floors, cleaning sinks, scrubbing pots, cleaning urinals, and putting out dozens of black rubbish bags; you could have been a waiter or waitress or simply a dispenser of t l c.

Congratulations to all our members who participated in the walk and for completing all or part of the event.

**Marshalling on future Hundreds.**

Surrey Group have given their support to many hundreds; I've been involved with co-ordinating the checkpoint marshals as far back as 1993 for the Dartmoor 100. I am sure the support goes back for many years prior to my taking on the task. Surrey have the reputation for being excellent hosts ; because of this we have done more than our share of breakfast checkpoints.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to get support, reasons for this range from (dare I say it) an older membership, travel costs, distance, and what may have once been fun now losing its novelty.....the same members are consistently supporting all the group activities.

For the reasons given above Surrey Group will not be hosting a checkpoint on the Cumbria 100 next year; although individual members will be supporting Morecambe Bay & Bowland with their efforts. As many of us, who have memories of organising the Downsman know, a great deal of time and dedication is given to this.

Surrey have been asked to host the breakfast point yet again on both the White Rose 100 in 2002, this starts in Ripon, and the Exmoor 100 in 2003. I have not accepted either invitation as I would like feedback from the Group.

Please, please, do let me know your feelings! It maybe that the Group would prefer a less arduous checkpoint? If the Group wishes I will continue co-ordinating the marshals, but I do need your support and co-operation. I can't do it on my own.

*Janet Chapman*

**West Meon Meander**

**12th July**

Fourteen members met at Old Winchester Hill CP on Wednesday morning for a leisurely walk through some very peaceful countryside to Hambledon for lunch, passing the small hamlet of Meonstoke where the Meonwarra tribe from Denmark settled by the River Meon. The church now standing was erected in the 9th century and has a unique tower being built of stone for threequarters of the way up with the rest finished in oak, which, from the ground ,looks like a look-out tower. The grounds in front of the Church were laid out as a private garden..



with lawns and flower beds

Our leader took us through many corn and wheatfields, with their heads now a lovely golden colour, reminding us that 'bringing in the Harvest' is just around the corner.

Having found the only Inn in Hambledon (the other two now closed) we enjoyed a reasonable lunch and the only shower of rain chose this time to fall. We later passed the famous Hambledon Cricket Club pitch 1750c where rain had not stopped play.

Having followed the Wayfarers Way for much of the day we soon found ourselves back at the CP on Old Winchester Hill. On such lovely walks as this, thank you Joan for showing us the way, it is becoming increasingly noticeable that little wildlife is now heard or seen

Janet Whiteman

#### **Midsummer Walk**

**Wednesday, 21st June**

The Cathedral clock could just be heard striking the hour as Louise led us promptly away from 12 East Meads in the general direction of the centre of town.

After an interesting kanter up through the Cathedral grounds and then down past the newly built additions to the University campus we arrived on the west bank of the River Wey, by this time the low cloudbase was being blown swiftly away towards the north east, meanwhile Louise & Co were footing it south along the towpath at a brisk 3.5mph, passing a variety of inns without the slightest hint of hesitation and in the general direction of **Losely Park**.

By now the weather had improved dramatically and we were walking towards a spectacular sunset, Dave spotted some egrets on the lake near to Poisted Manor, we continued on to pass Coneycroft Farm eventually arriving at **Watts Gallery** before turning and heading back eastwards towards the North Downs escarpment, as we climbed up to **Henley Fort** we were rewarded with some fine clear views including the **Canary Wharf Tower** in the far distance.

Many thanks to Louise for a truly memorable 'social challenge walk' and also for the wondrous 'bill of fare' afterwards.

Ed.

#### **Chiropractic Clinic**

*Sprained, Bruised, Twisted, Cramped, Locked, Strained, Aching, or just plain Sore? Do you always hear what your body is telling you? A FREE Spinal Screen is available from the clinic at the University of Surrey, 27-29 Frederick Sanger Road. Tel. 01483. 306722.*