



Surrey Group
NEWSLETTER
Autumn 2005



Items for Newsletter

The Newsletter is published three times a year, Spring, Summer and Autumn. Reports of past events, letters, and other items should be sent to the Editor one month before the publication date of the next Newsletter. Preferably they should be sent by email or typed, but manuscript will be accepted.

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Editorial

The summer to early autumn season contained two unusual walks, the Septuagenarian's Shuffle and the Surrey Tops Challenge. This Newsletter contains reports of both of these. As far as the Surrey Tops is concerned, the Group will be considering the experiences of the event and suggestions made. They will probably decide to run the next Surrey Tops in spring 2006, so as to get it in before the Hundred. Keith Chesterton, requests that if any of those who took part have any suggestions, to let him know, either by letter or by email. His contact details are:

Keith Chesterton, Firle, Chestnut Ave, Guildford GU2 4HD
chestertonk@guildford.gov.uk

In the forthcoming programme there are two park walks, Richmond Park on the 19th November and Windsor Park on the 6th April, another of Tony Youngs' walks, Trundle Trek, on 2nd April and, on the 21st May, there is the sixth walk of the series based on the Surrey County border. As always in this period there is the Surrey Inns Kanter, the Winter Tanners, the Punchbowl Marathon, and a further nine walks

In May 2006 there will be another 'first' for the Group, the Portsmouth City Marathon. Paul Treacher, who suggested the walk, writes:

"It may surprise outsiders that Portsmouth has such a diversity of characteristics that everyone in the LDWA should be interested in walking there. Being mostly on Portssea Island it has 14 miles of coastline Esplanades, Promenades, Naval Bases, forts, castles, bastions, moats, golf and sport, shopping centres, etc. and forgetting A2030 and M275 and M27. The whole island is flat, just above high water level. The city boundary extends into mainland Hampshire up to the top of Portsdown, 100m high. Superb views are to be had from there, seeing the Millennium Tower, the whole of the island and across the Solent to the Isle of Wight. There is no shortage of safe walking and many miles off the main roads away from the hustle and bustle of busy city life."

This Newsletter also contains information about that important social event - the Christmas walk and Dinner - which takes place on Saturday 10th

Autumn 4-day event; 2006

Molly Groundsell, the organiser, writes to say that the event will take place from Saturday 7th October to Wednesday 11th October, 2006. The group will be staying at Derwent Bank, the Holiday Fellowship House on Derwent Water. She has provisionally booked 24 places and now needs to know who would like to join the group. In addition she needs a £25 deposit by January 15th 2006. Molly would also be pleased to know who would be prepared to lead a walk.

LDWA Surrey Group
Christmas Dinner 10th December 2005
NEW VENUE - The Parrot Inn, Shalford, nr Guildford (GR 997468)

7.00 for 7.30pm dinner

Enclosed with this Newsletter is the menu. Please let me know your selection by November 18th AND whether you will be walking and dining, or dining or just walking.

Reply:

You can either:

send a copy of the menu to me (12 East Meads, Guildford GU2 7SP)

or phone 01483 503768 (Leave a message stating the letters of your choice and whether you'll be walking as well as dining)

or email me at louise.cartwright24@ntlworld.com

Payment: £22 per person - send a cheque (LDWA Surrey Group) or pay on the day

Changing rooms:

are available at The Parrot for those of us who will be walking and dining

The Walk

Mervyn Harvey is leading the walk which starts at 9.00am. I will pass the number of walkers to him so he can inform our lunchtime hosts. Anyone wanting information about the walk should contact Mervyn directly on 01798 344309.

Funny hats / Christmas decorations - hope all walkers will come suitably attired!

Car Parking - Cars being left all day should be parked along the side road which is just in front of The Parrot (NOT in the pub car park).

Looking forward to seeing you on the 10th

Louise

A Trip to Stanford Dingley 28 July

As a member of both Thames Valley and Surrey I offered this as a joint walk for both groups with my co-leader Peter Saunders. We had experienced a very dry, hot period for the month and this was broken by heavy rain and thunder the day before this walk. However the day itself was forecasted as warm with possible showers. I had advertised the walk to start from the main car park in Pangbourne but since advertising in Strider the Council, in their infinite wisdom, had decided to increase car-parking fees for a day charge of £5.00! However the station car park next door was charging only £1.20 for the day after 10.00am. I arrived at the start early and was able to redirect most of the walkers to this cheaper option. Thirteen walkers and two dogs set off westward to arrive at Upper Basildon where we had a drink stop as it was now warming up quite well. We continued westward through Green Wood and then turning south on the edge of Ashampstead Common, passing through pleasant farm land and then through Broomhill Copse and over the M4. Once passed The Gravels we passed through undulating paths across fields to the pretty hamlet of Stanford Dingley. Lunch was taken at The Ball when, conveniently (at least for those of us not having a picnic) the one and only shower of the day took place.

After lunch we headed eastwards for our return passing Bradfield Farm and the old watercress beds, long since closed due to contamination of the water. The route then took us along the River Pang to skirt Bradfield College, and pass some of their sports grounds. A mile of road walking took us under the M4 this time and then we again picked up the River Pang back to Pangbourne.

It was, I believe, new territory for most of the Surrey members and, by the remarks afterwards, an enjoyable day. Many thanks to you all for such good company.

Avril Stapleton

CHILTERN LANDMARKS 100 28th - 30th May 2005

IVINGHOE- opp the Beacon 76.10 miles into the walk

Another tremendous marathon from stalwart members of the Surrey group and helpers who completed not a walking marathon but hosted a checkpoint for a total of 20.5 hours. A big thank you to you all.

Peter Edwards (you can see him posing in Strider outside the tent) Elaine Edwards, Reg & Janet Chapman and Mervin Harvey were the first shift arriving at 03.30 Sunday to meet the members of the organizing team and help with erecting the tents. The van with the food was unloaded and the tents made inviting ready to welcome the walkers. There were even fairy lights to guide the walkers.

John Robinson and Patricia arrived (with everything including the kitchen sink) to make the long night and day cosier for the marshals. Those early members of the Surrey Group will recall that John was well known for his roaring bonfires underneath the A3 on the Surrey Summits. John did enquire if he would be allowed to light a bonfire. On reflection it was considered, that the Asbridge Estate wardens, (whose land we were using) would have been none too happy.

Initially the group had not been eager to host another 100 CP. However The 100 organizing Committee had called on and pleaded for the Surrey Group with their expertise to manage a CP. The marshals who supported the group in addition to the above named were:

Elizabeth Bryan, Molly Groundsell, Peter and Betty Waterhouse, Ray and Rosemary Rowe, the latter kindly sat at the far end of the car park ensuring that the tired walkers did not leave via the wrong route. Ellie Chapman (aged 7) who handed round biscuits, John Dixon cheering everyone with his happy smile, Ann Sayer, Gavin Browning, Michael Holiday and spouse from Essex and Herts group and Nicki Brown a new Surrey member and a novice at Check Pointing who kindly brought homemade scones to hand round to the walkers.

Congratulations to all the Surrey Group members who completed the walk, Gail & John Elrick and Janet Chapman completed the marshals walk, Fiona Cameron, completed her first 100, Ian McLeod completed his tenth 100, Jeff Campbell, Bill Grace, Avril Stapleton and Janet and John Whiteman.

Although Surrey will not be hosting a checkpoint on the 2006 Northumbrian 100, some members of the Group have offered their support on the marshal's walk.

Janet Chapman

South Again with John Dixon, 7th August

We headed off away from the car park at Newlands Corner not south but more in an easterly direction and downhill towards Water Lane Cottages and then along the Pilgrim's Way towards Albury.

Already it was warming up and the sun was climbing into a clear blue sky, the path along through the larch woods before Shere was very dry from lack of any rain for months, but then, it was to be expected during midsummer after all.

We were led skilfully through the back doubles of Shere thereby avoiding the 'tourist route' which, even at this time in the morning begins to get clogged up with sightseers shopping for bits of memorabilia from deepest Surrey.

Onwards through Gornshall to Raikes Farm and Raikes Hollow and then to 'The Motte' at Abinger Common. A brief stop for drinks here before eventually turning south towards Holmbury St. Mary and the King's Head which I thought, in my innocence, was going to be the lunch stop, but, no, this was not to be, we still had another three miles to go along the Greensand Way before this happened.

Continuing onwards through the Hurt Wood we climbed gradually up to the viewpoint on Holmbury and were rewarded with a spectacular view south towards the South Downs where Firle and Chanctonbury Ring could be clearly seen, as it was too early in the day for any summer haze to have developed.

Having admired the view, some of us had also noticed below us the village of Ewhurst and its most important building, namely, the Bull Inn! We headed off, downhill, hot foot, in the general direction of the saloon bar.

After a leisurely lunch, which lasted about the customary hour, we headed off again soon passing the remains of the Roman villa at Rapsley Farm and then the stately Winterfold House before joining up again with the Greensand Way via Jelley's Hollow

There followed the long descending path passing Winterfold Cottage and then a series of vaguely familiar paths heading in a generally north westerly direction, crossing the very sandy Farley Heath and then passing one of Keith's Tops in the Blackheath Forest and so to the car park next door to 'The Villagers'! No, we didn't stop here but kept going, past the war memorial en route for St Martha's Hill. There now followed the long slog up to the St. Martha's shoulder before meeting the North Downs Way and so back up to the Newland's Corner kiosk for a well-earned cup of tea.

Thank you John for once again leading us away from the straight and narrow to enjoy the delights of the paths, stiles, sheeptracks, sheepruns, bridleways, swamps and farmyard smells and sounds of the Surrey countryside. When can you do the next one?
John Lay.

A septuagenarian's shuffle 27th-28th



Ian McLeod (776) is one of the senior members of the Surrey Group. He has completed 10 hundreds (including one of 140), qualified in 3 Centurian events and has completed numerous other challenge events over the years. This year Ian saw another achievement, his 70th birthday, and to mark the occasion he devised a walk the duration of which was to be one mile for each year of his life. But this was to be no 'simple' 70. This walk was to visit all 12 local authorities in Surrey, namely: Woking, Guildford, Waverley, Mole Valley, Reigate & Banstead, Tandridge, Epsom & Ewell, Kingston, Elmbridge, Spelthorne, Runnymede, and Surrey Heath. The challenge assumed new levels when John Lay always on the look out for more walks suggested he might run it as a group event. This of course meant a quality route description, more elaborate support etc.

Undaunted by John's suggestion Ian began planning what in practice became a difficult set of objectives to satisfy. Six months later and with over 100hrs and 300+ miles of route walking (not to mention the countless hours spent pouring over maps and of course the serious task of checking out 'refreshment' stops) the walk was ready. And what a walk it turned out to be.

Starting at 8am from Woking railway station the route followed the River Wey to Guildford where it struck east to our lunch stop at the Villagers PH on Blackbeath (Mole Valley) at 13 miles. On East via Wotton Hatch (21 miles and welcome liquid refreshment) to Dorking and Reigate (Reigate & Banstead) at 24 and 32 miles respectively. Ian had planned to average 3mph over this entire section to ensure we reached Reigate 30 minutes before the chip shop closed! With amazing accuracy and a phoned-ahead order we were there and eating a good 5 minutes ahead of our schedule. Donning night gear we set out on an excursion to Nutfield to cross into Tandridge. Our leader had mumbled something about this leg being a 'bit of a loop' but none of us realised that the loop would see us back in Reigate again some 5 hours later! Indeed such was the impact of this that one of our band

thought she might have nightmares about being trapped in Reigate never to escape (does LDWA cover include therapy for such cases?). But escape we did and striking north across the North Downs east of Colley Hill our route took us on via Walton-on-the-Hill and Epsom (Epsom and Ewell). John Westcott and Roy Barnsley set up 2 excellent mobile checkpoints at 42 and 51 miles over this the night section providing everything a walker might need (I'll leave that to the imagination). Again Ian's timing was immaculate, working on 2.8mph for the first part of the night dropping to 2.4 for the remainder, we reached the mobile cps spot on time. Dawn saw us passing through Chessington Adventure Park (no stomach, or time, for the rides) then on via Claygate (Elmbridge) to Walton-on-Thames (Spelthorne) at 60 miles for an excellent breakfast by the Thames. The final miles took us along the river to New Haw (Runnymede), the River Wey and the Basingstoke Canal before striking out across Horsell Common for the final boundary of Surrey Heath. Two miles later saw us at a delightful teashop in Mimbridge and the finish in under 30hrs - hardly a 'shuffle'!

From the outset Ian wished to keep the walk 'local' and had invited fellow walkers mainly from his Surrey Group and the Surrey Walking Club to accompany him. Ian's meticulous planning ensured the route passed close to strategic rail and bus links so that people could join and leave the walk to suit their individual needs. This proved popular with numbers swelling to a maximum of 24 during the day and reducing to 7 overnight. Six walkers managed to go 'all the way' with Ian!

Now all walks generate their more memorable moments and this one was no exception: the rather self-important canoe coach on his mountain bike careering along the River Wey who rather thought everyone should move aside, Ian didn't, with the result that the canoeists were left without a coach until he managed to extricate himself from the ditch; the unmentionable things done with Vaseline on Reigate High Street in preparation for the night; John and Roy's second mobile checkpoint visited no less than three times by over zealous police patrol cars who seemed convinced there was more on offer than just tea or coffee, fortunately they failed to unearth the stash of caffeine-laced Red Bull that Ian had secreted to help him through the tougher miles; the courting couple who fled a bus shelter in the dead of night muttering something about having just got comfortable when "you lot turned up". Walks are made of memories and these will certainly linger.

No report would be complete without its thanks and these must go to John Westcott and Roy and Olive Barnsley who supported Ian in numerous ways over the planning and on the day. And of course to Cindy, Ian's wife, who not only stoically contended with the months of planning but also turned out without protest (at least not one that we heard) in the early hours of Sunday morning to rescue one of our number who had developed a severe and serious list to port!

At one point during the night Ian confessed that he was not sure how he would fill his time for the rest of the year so much had the planning consumed him. Well Ian, I have a suggestion - you could always start planning for 71, 75 or even 80...

Happy Birthday and very well done!!

Tony Cartwright

Downsman Revisited (AGAIN) 14th August

I wonder if this poor Downsman is getting fed up with 15 walkers arriving on his doorstep every year? Probably not as he too may well have shared the boundless hospitality of the Chapmans (or is it Chapman's?) Admittedly no champagne but morning coffee and bikkies at morning coffee and bikkie time and afternoon tea and cakes at afternoon tea and cake time.

And that tea and cake time was only the first! The organisation was so efficient that within an hour we had reached the Amberley tea rooms sitting in the sun by the river for yet more tea and cakes.

If we then remember that we had spent some time outside the pub at lunchtime and then some more inside the pub when it very inconsiderately rained, it may sound surprising that we still managed a short walk! 20 miles it said in the programme but then they all say that so with all that eating was it ever more than 10 miles? Yes I can confirm that I have studied the map (hopefully the same one that our glorious leader was using) and reckon that it was a really tough, strenuous and exhausting 18 miles!

You may well ask now for some information about the walk. Another study of the map reveals which bits were up and which were down but with so much chat and banter (put Janet and Avril together and they do go on!) the walk could have passed almost unnoticed.

So for the record and not wanting this report to be considered frivolous (even if no one was able to advise Ian what brands of beer were to be served in the pub at lunchtime – a serious worry for a leader!) I can report that 16 set off from the car park down the hill to Amberley and then headed east along the South Downs Way. Eventually climbing to Chanctonbury ring and down to Washington for lunch. It was a surprise to find a nice level half hour after lunch before turning up hill again and rejoining the South Downs Way now heading west, once again finding Reg. for tea before the final gentle descent to the Aran Valley back to Amberley for that aforementioned sit in the sun by the river and those aforementioned second helpings of tea and cake.

But what a lovely walk - it never ceases to amaze the difference between the tree-lined ridge of the North Downs and the wide-open spaces of the South. It is surely one of the great ridge walks offering stunning views of the sun sparkling on the sea in one direction and way down to Chichester Cathedral and then looking north towards Sarrey and the Leith/Holmbury hill ridge where some of us had been only the previous week.

Our thanks to our eminent leader (mind you it was a bit easy as we kept passing these big signs saying South Downs Way) who gave us a day to remember and for the company of our fellow walkers, the weather and the scenery.

Popularity for these walks is growing all the time (will they have to put a limit on numbers next time?) so you are strongly recommended to watch your newsletters carefully to be sure that you book early for the next thrilling instalment of The Downsman Revisited.

John Dixon



Mike's Mogador Meander 17th August

With the promise of a very hot day at 0930 an assortment of 14 LDWA walkers together with friends from the MABAC days left Barbara's home, Ashurst House, on the top of Boxhill. John Lay led the walk taking us down (if a walk starts at the top it must go down) to then go up Mickleham Hill to continue along Stone Street and then follow some of the Old Summits route via Langley Vale. After two hours walking a small voice from a small person (Gillian Bull) declared that it was time for a stop. This was obeyed.

The walk then continued via Epsom Downs to reach, after approx 11 miles, the Sportsman at Mogador. To our delight Tony Youngs (an Elder Statesman of the Surrey Group) had been told of our lunch venue and joined us for lunch.

While queuing for lunch our small person, in a 'big voice' proclaimed that if she has to queue too long she is likely to feel dizzy and have a touch of the 'vapours'. Her meal was hastily ordered. It was further noted that to prevent further attacks that she was served first.

John Robinson and Patricia joined us for the energetic afternoon stroll of 4 miles. Before leaving the Sportsman there was photo call and another on the top of the North Downs, where once again a space was made on an available seat for our small person to sit.

The final climb was back up Boxhill to reach Ashurst House. The Surrey group's latest acquisition, a gazebo, had been erected by John Lay (please note there were four Johns on the walk) to shield the walkers from the sun and to ensure that nothing took away the pleasure of tucking into afternoon tea, quiche, chocolate cake, scones jam & cream. Sue Borman unashamedly announced that she had enjoyed three scones adding that the reason she had to keep running marathons was so that she could enjoy occasions such as these.

Thanks Barbara, if the group is invited, I will certainly arrange another 'flexi' day from work and be back in 2006.

Janet Chapman



Strolling the Sussex Seaside Scenes

16th July

An early start was called for on a beautiful summer morning, as we had to be at Siddlesham Nature reserve for a 9.00am start. Courtesy of Peter and Betty we were soon cruising down the A29 (Stane Street to the historians) and breathing in the wonderful fresh sea air of West Sussex. It was not long before we had teamed up with John Lay, Molly and Ian, who had been delayed by heavy traffic. The scenery in these parts is unusual for us Surrey walkers, over familiar with the severe gradients of the North Downs. Here all was delightfully and, thank goodness – flat! - a pastoral and timeless array of farms, fields and villages, flanked by Chichester and Pagham Harbours with the backcloth of the South Downs to complete the glorious scene.

Our route took us by Easton Cottages, Almondington and across fields to Earnley Church. Earnley was once described as the most remote hamlet in the kingdom, and also as being "on the road from nowhere to nowhere". It was also famed for having the last full carvass-working windmill in the country. Trousers to the front, shorts to the rear! – the cry went up. Nothing sinister, but just an exceptionally brambly, nettle-strewn path virtually impassable, but surmounted with a degree of huffing, puffing, scratching and perseverance expected from long distance walkers.

Eventually we reached East Wittering Beach and embarked on the two and three quarter mile walk along golden sands to West Wittering. There were fine vistas south across the Solent to the Isle of Wight with extensive views from Durnose Head to Ryde. I could have sat there all day, looking at the varied scene from freighters to cruise liners and a multitude of smaller craft. However, we pressed on past the sun seekers on West Wittering beach and up the coastal path on the east side of Chichester Harbour to West Itchenor for lunch at "The Ship". Chichester Harbour with eleven square miles of intertidal waters has some of the best sailing for small boats in the country. The coastline is unique with bays, estuaries, shingle-bars and promontories. In Roman times the land stretched perhaps three miles further to the sea than it does today, and here, engulfed by the sea lie Belgic and Saxon settlements. After a fine lunch we continued along the coastal path to Birdham, experiencing yachts that appeared to be sailing through fields! Then, by way of woods, overgrown fields and farms, to skirt the edge of Pagham Harbour and back to the cars

Back to Peter and Elaine's for the most delicious French Buffet imaginable, with home made soup and an array of meats, pâtés, cheeses and deserts, washed down with some of John Lay's home-made wine, all consumed in a most delightful setting on a balm summer evening. Afterwards there followed a photo-presentation by Reg and Janet of a recent holiday undertaken by some of the Surrey group along the French section of the Pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostella.

Many thanks to Peter and Elaine for their marvellous hospitality and for leading us on such a wonderful days walking.

John Stovell

North Wales Trip : 3rd – 6th September

48 years ago, after a breakfast of cold water and a slice of rock-hard 2-week-old dry bread, I climbed my 1st British mountain. 4 of us, all novices, set off, to climb a snow covered Tryfan with the aid of a cyclostyled corner of a 1" map and the advice "go up Heather Terrace & you'll be alright". We were – just!

This time, on the Surrey Group's trip to North Wales, the Conwy HF provided a much better breakfast, we were led by 2 excellent guides, Dave Challenger and Fiona Cameron, new 1:25,000 maps were used, and we were no longer novices.

Oddly, though, the climbs seemed much harder and longer than they did in 1957.

But one thing remained the same. **We all enjoyed the trip enormously.**

On the Saturday, Dave led a 6-mile warm up over Conwy mountain with gorse, heather and views of Anglesey. Being late there, I tried to catch them and several walkers said they'd seen a group of sprightly OAPs, too sprightly for me, as I never caught them.

Sunday had Fiona lead 12 walkers from the side of Llyn Ogwen up a trackless, rocky slope to the top of Foel Goch (805m). A below par Richard went down and then Avril went with our two part-sighted (OK?) walkers, Ian McLeod & Peter Saunders, on the Miners' track back down to the lake. The other 8 carried on over Glyder Fach (994m) and most balanced on the Cantilever stone. We passed the Castle of the Winds, without scrambling up the rocks, and up to the top of Glyder Fawr (999m). Then by loads of untidy scree and a steep stepped descent by Llyn Idwal to meet the others.

So far, it had been a very hot and sunny 2 days, but there was a skittering of rain on the road back to the cars.

It had rained heavily overnight and so, on Monday, with low cloud, Dave led a 17-mile "lowland" walk via the North Wales Path to the edge of Llanfairfochan and Three Streams. Here we came upon a series of large newly carved expensive stones with either arrows pointing the way or numbers. We followed these but at number 5 stone, in the middle of a moor, they disappeared! Janet Chapman led a breakaway group, but we all met on the old roman road (430m) and made our way by moor paths back to the HF. We saw a part of North Wales often missed in the rush to the peaks.

Monday was another hot and clear day, so, especially for those who hadn't been there before, we decided on Snowdon and most of us went by the Miners' Track to the summit (1085m). After an hour's sunbathing at the top and tea and cakes in the summit café for me, we returned by the Pyg track to Penny-pass. As one of my knees was still suffering from the effects of Sunday's descent, I overcame my shame and accepted Molly's loan of a trekking stick to help me down. It did help, but I'll do lots of exercises to try to avoid having to use one again!

Others did their own thing on 1 or more days. John and Janet Whiteman did the alternative Llanberis path to Snowdon; Reg Chapman, besides driving us to walk starts, bumped into Barbara Blatchford in Llanberis. Joan Wrenn and Peter Edwards did shorter walks. Cindy McLeod saw all the sights of Conwy and around, which we missed.

We all enjoyed the HF food – filling breakfasts, great choice of packed food for lunch, good meals at night – and a bar, too.

Many thanks to Molly Groundsell for organising the trip – and to Dave and Fiona for leading walks. And especially for bringing back memories and reminding me of the beauty and grandeur of North Wales.

Keith Chesterton (LDWA 81)

The First Surrey Tops 50 Mile Event September 24/25th 2005

The Idea

This was the 1st Surrey Tops Event inaugurated to replace the old Surrey Summits event. We made a number of changes compared to that event, 50 miles rather than 100 kilometres (62.2 miles), runners as well as walkers, 3 checkpoints instead of 7, no inside checkpoints, no hot meal on route, and starting it at 5pm (8pm for runners) instead of 9.30 - 10 am.

I thought an event timed so that it was mostly at night would provide something new and a different challenge to those taking part. And as I intended it to be in the spring, it would give useful night practice for the LDWA hundred mile event. The timing of the starts would also mean that all entrants would have the same amount of time in the dark. With starts in the morning, the faster walkers and runners get through much more of the course in daylight and so get an advantage over slower walkers. In addition, I wanted to make this new event more manageable for the Surrey Group to organise. So I cut back on the number of CPs, and the cossetting we used to provide. In a way, we would be going back to the style of the very early Surrey Summits, where entrants had to be more self-reliant. There are many much more spartan events in France, so if the French can do it, so can we!

How did it go?

We were rather late publicising the event, especially to runners' groups and had a disappointingly small entry - 20, with 1 non-starter. We needed about 50 to break even and to justify the number of helpers, but decided to accept the loss, run it and get some experience of what it was like. We were also too late for spring in 2005 so decided on autumn. After much discussion by Surrey Members, especially after the Marshals' Walk, we decided to provide more (cold) food than we had said in the entry instructions and also hot soup at one CP. Some entrants unloaded some of their own provisions at the start after I told them this. The food we did provide went down well and we had little left over.

The weather was good, fine and warm most of the time with just a light touch of rain about 7am on Sunday. There were 14 walkers and 5 runners, though some of the runners walked later on. Walkers' times ranged from 14 hours 22 mins to 20 hours 51 mins and the runners from 11.58 to 15.52. Participants found it a hard event and the differences from times expected in a daytime event were stark. They particularly found the stretch between checkpoints 2 & 3, St Martha's and Reynard's Hill, hard going. With some difficult navigation and lots of hills some walkers took 6 hours on this section - a long time between food and drink stops. However, those who took part, said they enjoyed it. As one said, "We can keep on doing the same old type of event all the while. It's good to do something different."

Other suggestions made were that we should have more checkpoints and perhaps start a little earlier.

Marshals' Walk

This took place on July 23rd/24th. The weather wasn't so kind as on the main event and it rained during a lot of the night and the following morning. The 7 people who took part (& John Lay who did the first 20 miles with them) walked as a group, led by Tony Cartwright. As well as doing the walk, they were also checking the route description for any mistakes and ambiguities, and noting them. So their joint time of 19 hours 20 minutes compared favourably with the times on the main event. The successful seven were Tony and Louise Cartwright, Janet Chapman, Bill Grace, Ian McLeod, Fiona Cameron and Margaret Miles. (Some marshals were stood down for the main event). They were ably supported by Reg Chapman, who supplied food and drink at the 3 checkpoints.

Thank You

Route Description - Tony Cartwright, checked by Dave Challenger.

Organisation of Hall and Checkpoint Marshals - John Lay

Food for event and kitchen organisation - Janet Chapman

Equipment for event, entries and closing marshal - Reg Chapman

CP1 - Pat & Dave Challenger

CP2 - Louise & Tony Cartwright

CP3 - John Lay, Bill Grace & Ian McLeod

Kitchen at end - Janet Chapman, Cindy McLeod & Fiona Cameron

Night watchman in Hall - Peter Waterhouse

Design of Certificates (and their supply) - John Whiteman

Group Programme

All are welcome to these walks. They last about 8 hours and are taken at a reasonable pace. Unless indicated, they always include a pub stop for lunch and sometimes a tea stop.

If you intend to go on a walk, please tell the organiser or leader beforehand

Sunday 23rd October Distance: 26 miles Start: 9.00am; Peaslake Memorial Hall Organiser: Peter Saw; Tel: 0208 5497793 (before 9.00pm and weekends) See events diary in Strider for more details	Landranger 187 GR 085446	Founders Challenge
Sunday 6th November Distance: 20 miles Start: 9.00am; St Catherine's Hill, park in Chestnut Avenue Leader: Tony Cartwright; Tel: 01483 503768	Explorer 145 GR 992485	The Inns Path
Sunday 13th November Distance: 18 miles Start: 8.45am; Arena Leisure Centre, Lingfield Leader: Jackie Barker; Tel: 01883 344410	Landranger 187 GR 394432	Jack & Ted's Round 18
Saturday 19th November Distance: 17 miles Start: 9.30am; Diana Fountain CP, Bushey Park A gentle walk through the Royal Parks & Thames Path. Café lunch Leader: Dave Challenger; Tel: 01372 277138	Explorer 161 GR 160693	Richmond Roundabout
Saturday 10th December Distance: 15 miles Start: 9.00am The Parrot, off A248, Shalford Organisers: Tony & Louise Cartwright; Tel: 01483 503768 Dinner at 7.30pm The Parrot. Please book early with Louise. Walk Leader: Mervyn Harvey; Tel: 01798 344309	Landranger 186 GR 997468	Christmas Walk & Dinner
Tuesday 27th December Distance: 12 miles Start: 9.00am, walkers; 10.00am runners; RAF Memorial CP, Coopers Hill Road, Englefield Green Organiser: Ralph Henley; Tel: 01784 252104 (MAYBAC Running League) Small charge for route description	Landranger 175 GR 996728	Windsor Winter Wander
Monday 2nd January 2006 Distance: 12 or 20 miles Start: 9.00 to 10.00am; St Catherine's Village Hall, Guildford Organisers: Molly Groundsell; Tel: 01483 762843, Elizabeth Byran; Tel: 01483 776985 See Strider Events Diary for further details	Explorer 145 GR 992485	Surrey Inns Kanter
Sunday 8th January Distance: 20 and 30 miles; Start: 7.30 to 9.30am; Leatherhead Municipal CP Organiser: Barry Harrison; Tel: 0208 9491547 See Strider Events Diary for further detail	Explorer 145, 146 GR 163567	Winter Tanners
Thursday 12th January Start: 7.30pm; The Parrot, off A248, Shalford Supper afterwards Please pre-book with John Lay. Tel: 01932 346596	GR 997468	AGM

Group Programme

All are welcome to these walks. They last about 8 hours and are taken at a reasonable pace. Unless indicated, they always include a pub stop for lunch and sometimes a tea stop.

If you intend to go on a walk, please tell the organiser or leader beforehand

Saturday 21st January Distance; 20 miles; Start; 8.00am; CP at Church Lane, Witley Leader; John Lay. Tel: 01932 346596 There is no pub stop for lunch. This walk is self-supporting; bring adequate food and drink	Punchbowl Marathon Marshall's Walk Landranger 186 GR 947397
Sunday 12th February Distance; 20 and 30 miles in 10 hours; Start; 7.30am walkers, 8.30am runners/joggers Organiser; John Lay; Tel: 01932 346596 See Strider Events Diary for further details. Offers of help with marshalling urgently needed, contact organiser.	Punchbowl Marathon Landranger 186 Witley Village Hall GR 947394
Sunday 26th February Distance; 20 miles Start; 9.00am; CP top of Reigate Hill Leader; John Dixon; Tel. 0208 643316	Meander to Mugsowell Landranger 187 GR 263523
Sunday 12th March Distance; 18 miles Start; 9.00am; Haslemere Train Station Leader; Glensy Kirkpatrick; Tel. 01428 723062	Bulls Might Fly Landranger 186 GR 898329
Sunday 2nd April Distance; 22 miles Start; 9.00am; CP on Bignor Hill Leader; Dave Challenger Tel. 0132 277138 This walk is the third from the 1980 series originally described by Tony Youngs	Trundle Trek Explorer 120 and 121 GR 974129
Thursday 6th April Distance; 16 miles Start; 9.30am; CP in Wick Road off A30 Leader; Gillian Bull; Tel. 01344 842508	Blossoms in the Park Landranger 175 GR 985700
Sunday 23rd April Distance; 20 miles Start; 9.00am; CP on Chapel Common Leader; Dave Mitchell; Tel. 01730 825828	Not the Border Path Landranger 186 GR 813286
Thursday 11th May Distance; 18 miles Start; 9.30am; CP on Grandstand Road Leader; John Stovell; Tel. 0208 3930786	An Epsom Triple Landranger 187 GR 220587
Sunday 13th May Distance; 15 miles Start; 9.00am; Hillsea Halt Train Station Leader; Paul Treacher; Tel. 02392 691089 Train times; Woking 07.55, Guildford 0804; arrive Hillsea at 08.09	Portsmouth City Marathon, (Part 1) Landranger 197 GR 664035
Sunday 21st May Distance; 20 miles Start; 8.30am; CP in Dormansland Centre Leader; Jerome Ripp; Tel. 0208 5462830	Surrey Border Walks (Part 6) Landranger 187 GR 404423

SAT