

PUNCHBOWL MARATHON 2008

Event Report

Marshals

Start / Registration :	Tony Cartwright, Peter Waterhouse, Fiona Cameron, John Westcott, Joan Wrenn	
Pre-Entries :	Joan Wrenn	
Caterers :	Elizabeth Bryan , Glenys Kirkpatrick , Cindy McLeod, George Evans , Chris Hayward , John Dixon , Mike Usher	
CP1	Little Cowdray Farm	
	Dave & Pat Challenger , Vala West , Mervyn Harvey	
CP2	Tilford Village Hall	
	Tony & Louise Cartwright , Joan Wrenn , Janet Chapman , Keith Wilson , Vala West , George Evans	
CP3	Puttenham Village Hall	
	Richard Ireson , Bill Grace , Brian Haigh , Gillian Bull	
CP4	The Moat carpark	
	Dave & Pat Challenger , John & Sarah Stovell	
Routes 20 /30	Dave Challenger	
Closing Marshal	Reg Chapman	
Results	Tony Cartwright	
Entries : 315	Starters : 289	Retirements : 6

Many thanks to all the Surrey Group marshals who helped throughout the day

Special thanks are due to Fiona Cameron who had planned on running the 30 mile route but ,because we ran out of route descriptions (!!! ?) opted to stay behind and help , which she did all day !

I was told that we had a special mention in one of the more popular running magazines ! whether it was this or the fact that the gods were kind to us on this day and came up with what could only be described as a truly brilliant winter's morning in the middle of February , that is , frosty to start ,with some ground mist which quickly lifted to develop into great weather for walking and for viewing the sights that only the Punchbowl is famous for.

I must apologise for a bit of a miscalculation and not printing enough route descriptions on the morning , the number of on-the-day entries was far more than expected ,but we were able to retrieve enough copies for all in the end , and as far as I know a good time was had by all.

Next year I shall be handing over the organizing of the event to Jackie Barker and Ted Swift , I wish them well and hope they have as much luck with the elements as I have had over the years ; I shall still be lurking around somewhere , but hopefully at a convenient checkpoint not too far from a Surrey Inn.

Participating LDWA Groups and Running Clubs

Walkers : Thames Valley , Kent , Wessex , Norfolk & Suffolk , Beds Bucks & Northants , Sussex , Essex & Herts , London , Merrien Walkers.

Runners : Stragglers , Guildford Orienteers , Cranleigh Tortoise / Hare ,Serpentine RC , Blackwater Valley Runners , Collingwood AC , Liss Runners.

Marshals Walk

The following marshals completed the 20 mile route in 8 hours on the 20th January and will receive a certificate in due course , when they have been printed.

Elizabeth Bryan , Molly Groundsell , Jackie Barker , Ted Swift , Ray Rowe , Janet Chapman , Peter Waterhouse , Tony Cartwright , Ian McLeod , Glenys Kirkpatrick , Tony Cartwright , John Dixon , Chris Hayward

John Lay

Some Comments

"It didn't rain !!!

What a delight this year to run on generally dry tracks and without rain or snow. The last 2 or 3 years seem to have been wet and boggy making for a generally cold and slippery run, but this year John and the team must have had lots of fingers crossed to arrange such a glorious day. Even though I am lucky to live just to the south of Hindhead and regularly run on many of the areas we visited today, I never tire of the outstanding views we get and the beautiful countryside in an area that isn't really that far from central London. An old school friend once commented that as you head south on the A3 from Guildford, that as soon as you go over the crest of the North Downs the countryside just opens up ... it does. Make a point of looking next time you drive south on the A3.

I don't know when I first ran a Punchbowl Marathon, but suspect it was back in the early 70's whilst at school in Godalming in the days when Alan Blatchford organised the event (I think). Over the years the route has

headed north on flooded towpaths along the Wey when a badly placed foot may have resulted in an early bath, and prior to 1987 and the wayward Hurricane that caused so much damage the slopes of Blackdown were often visited. All routes have been great, but I think I prefer the one used for the last few years that gives us all the chance to sample to Punchbowl in it's full glory.

On behalf of the other walkers and runners who I am sure also enjoyed the day and event, a big thank you to John and the team for another first class event. Hopefully be back next year and injuries permitting will get back on to the 30 mile route again.

Thanks

Alastair Doyle
Guildford Orienteers

Good morning gentlemen, what an event you organized yesterday! Everything perfect, fantastic views over lovely Surrey countryside and my favourite route choice again.

I am not sure though what Alan and Chris might have thought of such benign conditions....next year they may well have other plans!

Thank you again and very well done.

Erik Falck – Therkelsen

. I participated in the PB 30 on Sunday and following the event I must say that it was exceptional.

Reasons for this (besides the perfect weather conditions!) were down to the scenic and well thought out route, friendliness of marshals and foods/drinks at check points.

I really can't point out any faults with this event.

Please pass on my thanks to all concerned.

Yours sincerely,

James

No: 21731
Sussex Group