**ITEM 7: BBN CHALLENGE EVENTS**

**(a) Shillington Shuffle 2017 – Merrian Lancaster**

**Route:** Following success on Steppingley Step 2016 we went from 4 to 3 checkpoints, Pirton, Lilley and Meppershall, and changed the route to avoid a stretch of the B655 on the medium/long routes. These changes also made the distances between checkpoints more even.

**Entries:** We used SiEntries and set the entry limit to 300, and reached this on 19th October. Subsequent entries went onto a waiting list. On 20th October and 7th November Mike emailed everyone to ask them to let him know if they couldn’t make it on the day. It isn’t possible for entrants to cancel their own entry. 36 cancelled their entries before the day, everyone on the waiting list was offered a place and all but 5 took up the offer. We had no postal entries.

10 people did the **Marshals’ Walk** on Sunday 29th October, or thereabouts.

Mainly because of Mike’s efforts managing the cancellations and waiting list, we only had 11% non-starters, which is below the figure most events are getting these days. There was pretty even split between walkers and runners who didn’t turn up.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Entries | Expected | Non-starters | Starters | Retired | Finished |
| 12 mile | 52 | 1 | 51 | 0 | 51 |
| 18 mile | 45 | 3 | 42 | 2 | 40 |
| 26 mile | 196 | 29 | 167 | 2 | 165 |
| overall | 293 | 33 | 260 | 4 | 256 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Finances** | **Income** |  | **Expenditure** |
| Entries | £2303.70 | Food | £408.73 |
| Tea donations | £60.00 | Hall hire | £442.00 |
| **Total Income** | **£2,363.70** | Other (van hire, printing) | £572.93 |
| Total Income | £2,363.70 | Expenditure on walk | £1,423.66 |
| Total Expenditure | £1,723.66 | Donation: Air Ambulance | £300.00 |
| **Surplus** | **£640.04** | **Total Expenditure** | **£1,723.66** |

Thank you to all the marshals who helped to make it a jolly good event. 27 people helped at various times and we had many comments about how friendly and helpful everyone was.

**(b) Pick & Mix 2018 – Lynn Yorston**

We had booked the Great Missenden C of E School for 4th March 2018 but as everyone knows, the weather was so bad that the event had to be cancelled at the very last moment. Thanks to SiEntries, the actual work involved in doing this was not too bad.

We re-ran the event on 10th June and everything went brilliantly. The biggest comment we had was to the fact that everyone enjoyed doing it in the summer. This is some-thing we are willing to discuss with the committee as we did alternate with the Chiltern Kanter.

**(c) Hannington Hike 2018 - Alan Leadbetter**

New name, new routes. The marshals’ walk threw up a couple of fields that were impassable due to crops, this meant we had to quickly find a couple of diversions (thanks to Adrian Moody & DFH). One diversion turned out to be a bit safer, so this will stay in for next year’s event. The fields were reported to The Street Doctor, but they were not cleared in time for the day of the event.

Had a bit of a panic as England were doing well in the World Cup, had to come up with a plan to take my TV to Headquarters so all who wanted to watch it could. In end that was not needed.

I spent a couple of hours clearing overgrown areas on a couple of Saturdays to make it easier, which was welcomed by everybody.

All went well on the day; the weather was hotter than we expected so I put on an extra water stop (thanks to Steve Clark for stepping in to help). All the 94 that started finished in good time, even if two people decided to walk it the wrong way.

**INCOME**

SiEntries £896.45

Cheques from Mike £28.00

Badges £20.50

Total £944.95

**EXPENDITURE**

HQ/halls £430.00

Badges/certificates £398.34

Van + fuel £80.01

Food £296.06

Total £1205.41

Loss £260.46

Will try to do better next year.

Next year the event will be about a month earlier on June 9th 2019, and the marshals’ walk will be on May 12th 2019. This is to help me have a bit more time to sort out the event in 2020 which will be in March.

**(e) Chiltern Kanter 2019 – Norman Corrin**

I’ve checked with Mike and as of Monday 19th November 54 people have entered. There is a choice of 26, 18 or 13 miles. The routes are roughly the same as 2017 but have been altered slightly. You’ll have to turn up on the Marshals’ walk 10th February or the main event on Sunday 3rd March to find out how exactly……..

I’ve contacted Safran Power Systems to see about using their company’s car park. The contacts I spoke to before had left and the new ones have not yet decided whether we can use their facilities. I’ve chased them a couple of times and still no reply.

Mike and I will be out on Sunday 2nd December (weather permitting) to recce the route and look at alternative venues along the same road. Mike used to work at a company there but unfortunately it is further to walk.

Roy Carter has expressed an interest in taking over the event after Mike and I step down.

At Sunday’s Sundon Saunter (try saying that after a few pints…..) Merrian informed me that the LDWA Chairman David Morgan will be taking part in the event. So best behaviour please!

As always Marshals will be required. All the people I asked on the Sundon said yes. Now if only I could remember who I asked…..….

Thanks to all of those who’ve helped me with the event since 2005 when I took it over from Jake. In particular to Mike for all of his handling of entries (pre SI days!) and route devising. In earlier years Dave & Lynn and Mike & Sandra gave a lot of help. The event couldn’t have happened without them or all of the others who’ve helped.