



LDWA KENT GROUP

White Cliffs Challenge

8 September 2013



AS is often the case for this event, this year's White Cliffs Challenge was accompanied by glorious September sunshine. We had 83 pre-entries plus another 17 entries on the day, bringing the total to 100. But we also had 13 no-shows, which meant 87 walkers and runners actually set out on the event from the lovely venue of St Margaret's Village Hall, 51 on the 30-mile route and 36 on the 15-miler.

From St Margaret's, both routes went out to the White Cliffs, which they followed to Dover. The 30-mile route went along Dover's delightful seafront before picking up the White Cliffs again and following them to Capel where – after a fine lunch provided by Gordon Harker and Pauline Thrush – country paths, tracks and lanes were followed back to Dover and then back to St Margaret's. The 15-mile route briefly visited Dover seafront before taking an inland route back to St Margaret's.

Conditions were actually some of the best we have had on the WCC since we first put it on in 2005, with views across the Channel to France which were absolutely stunning. In fact the views were so clear that it was possible to see the Dover Patrol memorial at Cap Blanc Nez, a good 22 miles away, from St Margaret's where there is another Dover Patrol memorial.

There were only two retirements, one on both routes, so there were 50 completions of the 30-mile route and 35 on the 15-mile one. Particular congratulations must go to Kent runner Maria Davis, who banged her face quite badly in a nasty tumble near Hougham. After washing the blood off her cheeks and mouth at the Whinless Down checkpoint, Maria gamely carried on as if nothing had happened, finishing in a time of 7.29. That's the spirit, Maria – you're an example to us all.

At the end, everyone finishing received a hearty meal provided by Joy Davies and Brenda Drew, a friend of Joy's who is a member of the White Cliffs Ramblers and who helped out in the kitchen. Thank you very much, Brenda.

Sincere thanks to everyone who marshalled on the event, and apologies to anyone whose name has inadvertently been excluded from this list.

Marshals: Pauline Barnett, Phil Butler, Brian Buttifant, Bryan Clarke, Joy Davies, Brenda Drew, Bob Field, Gordon Harker, Michael Headley, Neil Higham, Peter Johnson, Peter Jull, Merv and Fiona Nutburn, Neal and Jan O'Rourke, Mike Pursey, Eric Rolfe, Graham Smith, Alan Stewart, Pauline Thrush, Ivan Waghorn.

15 miles (35)

Andrew Hibbert, 2:34
Rick Roddy, 2:39
Janine May, 3:17
Peter Cane, 3:17
Amer Syed, 3:19
Rosie Ingram, 3:19
Paul Boakes, 3:31
Ben Hume, 3:31
Clifford Stokes, 3:43
Michaela Lewis, 3:43
Caroline Curtis, 3:47
Christopher Woolgar, 3:47
Stephen King, 3:47
Suzanne Sigmarssen, 3:49
Alan Burnett, 4:28
Cherry Burnett, 4:28
Bernard Allen, 4:33
Rose-Marie Doyle, 4:33
Pauline Doyle, 4:33
John Doyle, 4:33
Karen Williams, 4:46
Harry Williams, 4:46
Jim Williams, 4:46
Terry King, 4:51
Beverley Dunning, 5:09
Angela Furlong, 5:09
Johanne Daniels, 5:21
Mike Bond, 5:21
Liz Owsley, 5:22
Alison Pretious, 5:22
Eve Richards, 5:22
John Goodwin, 5:29
Linda Bright, 5:29
David Griffin, 6:01
Henry Griffin, 6:01

The 39th Sevenoaks Circular will be held in March 2014 – date to be confirmed. Keep an eye on our website: www.ldwakent.org.uk

30 miles (50)

Charlie Bainbridge, 5:30
Stephen Turner, 5:50
Malcolm Dyke, 5:50
John Poole, 5:56
David Giles, 6:12
Daniel Rourke, 6:13
Sarah Jackson, 6:13
Alan Hall, 6:13
Robert Whitmarsh, 6:13
Dave King, 6:25
Richard Griffin, 6:25
Suzy Yates, 6:25
Martyn Turner, 6:42
Stephen Wakeford, 6:47
Michael Hall, 7:15
Sally Grainger, 7:15
Bryan Darney, 7:16
Tony Savage, 7:28
Ian Brazier, 7:28
Paul Bridges, 7:28
Bob Gear, 7:28
Mark Bennett, 7:29
Maria Davis, 7:29
Andrew Boulden, 7:30
Claire Wright, 7:46
Alison Wright, 7:46
Joanna Turner, 7:47
Stephen Hollands, 7:48
Kathleen Hollands, 7:48
Martin Callow, 7:54
John Mumford, 8:02
Gilbert John, 8:55
Kathleen Moody, 8:55
Angela Craig, 8:58
Sarah Turner, 8:58
Phil Bradburn, 9:15
Sarah Doughty, 9:15
Keith Harding, 9:15
David Hunter, 9:15
Norma Williams, 9:33
Toby Thurgood, 9:33
Alistair Sutherland, 9:33
Simon Thurgood, 9:33
Mick Lane, 9:50
Mark Bertoni, 9:50
Joanna Bertoni, 9:50
John Deller, 9:51
Julie Welch, 10:15
Fred Konyenbourg, 10:15
Julian Sharpe, 10:22

NEXT year Kent Group celebrates its 40th anniversary, and to mark the occasion the 100k Wealden Waters Walk – the group's first overnight challenge walk – will be staged over the weekend of 26-27 July 2014.

Next year's special Wealden Waters – an event which had been held every year until it was discontinued in 2003 – will replace Kent Group's annual summer 26-mile High Weald walk. Apart from the main 100k route, there will also be a 40k (25 miles approx.) distance. Venue will be in the Tunbridge Wells area, and there is likely to be a limit of 150 entrants, all of whom will get a commemorative mug.

Full details will appear in the April Strider.