

## LDWA London Walks 2008

### **Sun 28 Dec 2008 Peter's Christmas Walk 21ml.**

Start Norbiton Stn 09:13. Depart London Waterloo 08:48. Frequent return trains. Peter's famous Christmas Walk takes in the Brixton Windmill, the last windmill in central London. Lunch at Brockwell Park. Map: London A to Z. Ldr Clare Kirkbride will replace Peter Saw

*Summary: 18 miles. Ldr Clare Kirkbride replaced Peter Saw*

*The walk went very well in splendid weather, fresh but not windy. Dry overhead and underfoot, we were 9, fuelled by mince pies thoughtfully provided by Peter, and led along the Hogsmill Brook by Peter, then afterwards as a team effort by Joan, Andy, Helen and Clare. We took elevenses at the cafe in Morden Hall Park to plan the rest of the day, which turned out to be the Wandle Trail to Wimbledon Park for lunch, then circuitously to Richmond Park, and more directly to the viewpoint of St Paul's for a glorious sunset at 4pm with clear views over the Downs. Finally, to Norbiton station. Clare.*

### **Sun 21 Dec 2008 Norbiton Circular 20ml+.**

Start Norbiton Stn 9:13. Depart London Waterloo 8:48. Frequent return trains. Following the Hogsmill valley and Ashted Common to lunch at Epsom. The afternoon will take in Princes' Covert (which requires a key to get into), the Mole Valley and Home Park with Richmond Park as an optional addition. Ldr Chris Dent will replace Peter Saw

*Summary: 23 miles. Ldr Chris Dent replaced Peter Saw*

*Oh what a perfect day! 8 walkers arrived at Norbiton Station to be warmly greeted by Peter and Hilary armed with a trayful of scrumptious mince pies. After devouring the treats, the party headed for Richmond Park. Peter left us at Ham gate, and the route then headed for Hampton Court via Teddington Lock, Kingston Bridge and HCGC park. Then towards Esher Common and Claygate where following a mini navigational faux pas, the outskirts of Epsom were reached at 2, and the majority of the party dived into the Cricketers pub. 3 of us hightailed it into Epsom for a caffeine fix at the Cafe Nero. 3 walkers decided to take the train home after lunch, and the remainder headed westwards and picked up the Thames Down Link for the return trek. With darkness falling, 2 walkers bade their farewell at Tolworth and the rest of us speed-walked the final stage to New Malden station. Chris*

### **Sun 14 Dec 2008 London Loop: High Barnet to Buckhurst Hill 18.5 ml.**

Start 09:30 High Barnet Stn (Zone 5 on the Northern Line). Lunch at Forty Hall Cafe (GR 336986) or bring a packed lunch. Regular return trains from Buckhurst Hill (Zone 5 on the Central Line). Ldr Nick Marshall

*Summary: 18.5 miles. Ldr Nick Marshall*

*We had a nice walk yesterday - there were 8 of us and we walked just over 20 miles. Unfortunately when we got back there was a phone message waiting for us - some people had gone to Elstree and Borehamwood - and wondered where we were! We felt that we had done everything possible to alert people to the changes, and amongst the people who did walk with us there was at least one without email, one who hadn't walked with us before (although a member) and one who isn't a member, and they all managed to see the changes. So, what can one do? I haven't phoned the person who left the message as the line was poor and the phone number difficult to hear. Judith*

**Sat 6 Dec 2008 SW London Christmas walk 17ml.**

Start Richmond Underground and British Rail Stn at 9:00. Lunch in Kingston. Frequent return trains from Richmond. Followed by an early evening meal and theatre in Richmond. Ldr Lonica Vanclay

*Summary: 17 miles. Ldr Lonica Vanclay*

*Was a beautiful sunny winter's day - cold but completely clear and sunny for the whole day. 17 of us started out from Richmond -following the Thames along to Hampton Court . The Kings Arms was warm and welcoming - though the soup was rather watery - and by the time we had lunch there we had become 20! Back through Hampton Court and we looped our way through Richmond Park taking in a gorgeous sunset and the view all the way back to St Pauls' Cathedral before arriving back at Richmond just on dusk. 10 of us enjoyed the tasty Persian meal and the intrepid indulged in the magic of Peter Pan at the Richmond Theatre - oh yes we did! Lonica*

**Sun 30 Nov 2008 LDWA in the city 17 ml.**

Start Manor House Tube Stn, exit 6, 9:30 (Piccadilly line). Meet at Finsbury Park's Eastern Gateway across the road from Manor House Tube Station. We'll visit London's famous parks and have a café/picnic lunch in one of them. Old railway to Highgate, then Waterlow Park, Highgate cemetery, Hampstead Heath, Belsize Park, Primrose Hill, Regents Park, Baker St, Hyde Park, Lady Diana Fountain, Buckingham Palace, to Eros, Piccadilly Circus. Option to go onto Regent St lights and De Hems Dutch pub in Macclesfield St near China town and Leicester Sq. Lots of water fowl to see in the London parks this Nov. Ldr Peter Russell

*Summary: 17 miles. Ldr Peter Russell*

*This was a great walk to tick all those London sculptures and sights. The most impressive to me was Watt's monumental sculpture of 'physical energy', in Hyde Park, i.e. a naked man on a horse, that was less fussy than the beautifully re-gilded Albert memorial. Half our crew of 18 were very pleased to walk around the gentle Princess Diana memorial fountain whilst I changed my wet socks by the Serpentine lido. After the round pond, without nannies or model yachts today, but the chance of a debutante tea at £14 in the nearby orangery of Kensington Palace I was reminded of the era when the child Alice wanted to marry a hard guard so she could mend his socks, listen maybe after she fed the ducks by a very different Peter Pan to that of the group's panto outing 6 days later. Incidentally we did not find the pelicans in St James Park but counted 13 herons, including 2 on their tree top nests, and saw a flock of very pretty white bar-headed geese. Earlier in the walk we passed ivy-clad graves in Highgate leading down to the pseudo-gothic Angela Burdett-Coutts model village. Blots on the landscape that I tried to ignore were the Royal Free Hospital, the Lancaster hotel, the Hyde Park Hilton and finally the Hyde-Park Barracks. At dusk we saw Scott's statue and the silhouette of Florence Nightingale with her (incorrect) genie lamp before a glance at the white starry nets above Regent street. We then all had 2 cheerful drinks of special beers such as 8%, wheat and strawberry (in place of alcopops) at De Hems near China town after completing 16 ¾ miles. Peter*

**Sat 22 Nov 2008 Three Bridges to Hayward Heath 21ml.**

Start Three Bridges Stn 9:14. Depart London Victoria 8:32. Frequent return trains from Hayward Heath to London. By the Sussex Border Path. For those who are National Trust members there will be the option of having a lunch time snack in the Standen House lovely old 'barn' with views on Weir Water. For non members there is a £3.60 fee to get

in, or they can take a packed lunch and eat outside the property. Ldr Sally Adams

*Summary: 21miles. Ldr Sally Adams 19 walkers started happily on a bright and fresh autumn day. We kept a good pace all day long to try to shorten the time we would walk in pitch dark in the evening, as sun sets around 4:30 these days. Lunch was in the magnificent National Trust Standen where we all enjoyed the building's architecture and the beautiful gardens with lovely views. Just as we were starting after lunch we had the good surprise of a few snow flurries but it didn't last long and sun came back fast, as bright as in the morning. All afternoon the views were fantastic, we passed near two magnificent reservoirs: Weir Wood reservoir and Ardingly reservoir. We stopped for a few minutes in West Hoathly to admire the lovely church, cemetery and surrounding sumptuous views. We watched a gorgeous sunset, and finished the walk with our headlamps, as usual, but spirits were so high after such a great walk that night and mud couldn't darken our moods.*

### **Sat 15 Nov 2008 The Thames in autumn 20ml.**

Start Kingston Stn 8:25. Depart London Waterloo 7:57. Along the Thames and through the parks. Pub or picnic lunch. Map Exp 161. Ldr Jerome Ripp

*Summary: 20miles. Ldr Jerome Ripp*

*8.30 Kingston station, a party of 16 adventurous walkers, mostly London group stalwarts but also some non-members who wanted to experience a Jerome 20 miles, they said they would join the LDWA, let's hope they do because it was a cracking walk. A mild autumn day, even patches of blue sky helped to speed us on our circuit of the western suburbs. Not a single stile was also a bonus. Via the parks of Bushey, Fulwell, Cranford and Hounslow Heath, a green corridor led us to the end of the runway at Heathrow with planes roaring just over our heads. For a variety of noise we crossed the M4 and then the Grand Union canal was our companion. Lunch at the Old Oak Tree came after 14.5 miles which according to Nicole, making a welcome reappearance after her Greece experience, was a record for a morning walk. There had been a few accidental extras where the leader had pretended to get lost but in the afternoon there were some genuine detours. The police had closed part of the canal towpath and later on, after Osterley park, Syon park with tea, we finally reached the Thames only to find severe flooding on both banks. We eventually made it back to Richmond with Rob and Don deciding to swim to the station. Some people claimed it was over 22 miles but whats a few extra miles between friends!! Jerome*

### **Sat 8 Nov 2008 Arundel Circular c23.5ml.**

Hilly route in the South Downs with great views. Start Arundel Stn 9:01. Depart London Victoria 7:32. Pub lunch at the Cricketers, Duncton or picnic. Map LR 197, Exp 121. Bring a torch. Ldr Margaret Romanski

*Summary: 23.5 miles. Ldr Margaret Romanski*

*There were 11 of us with 2 joining at lunch time. The weather was mostly dry but overcast -although there was an absolute downpour just after lunch. People got very wet but it didn't seem to dampen spirits. The route was certainly appreciated. It was predominantly up on the downs, coming off only to visit the pub for lunch. It was advertised as hilly and there were lots of ups and downs. Visibility could have been better - which was a pity as on a clear day the views from the downs are excellent. The pace was good - we completed the distance in around 7hrs walking time. We stopped for lunch at The Cricketers, Duncton. The food was good and service efficient. By obtaining the*

*menu via email the day before and phoning the food order in advance we managed to reduce the lunch break to around 40 mins. The early start and short lunch meant that we finished by 5.15pm without the need for torches. Margaret*

**Sun 2 Nov 2008 Greensand Way Linear Walk Part 2. 21 ml.**

Start Godalming Stn 08:55. Depart London Waterloo 08:00. Return trains from Dorking every half hour. Pub lunch is at King's Head in Holmbury St Mary 12 miles into the walk. Light lunches only so bring snacks. Please bring a torch. If you are travelling to Waterloo on the Northern Line, the Northern Line platform is sometimes closed at weekends so give yourself a few minutes extra to get there. Godalming and Dorking are on two different lines so it means two single tickets unless you want to walk back to Godalming. Ldr Susanne Waldschmidt. This is the second of a series of walks Susanne will lead over the next couple of years covering the entire Greensand Way.

*Summary: 21 miles. Ldr Susanne Waldschmidt*

*15 walkers in a dry and sunny weather for a very beautiful walk with lots of variety. The pub was King's Head, Holmbury St Mary. We managed to get to Dorking just as nightfall was approaching though we had to shortcut the last mile or two. Quite a few of the group were keen to get on with the next stage. We paid our respects at the Founders Memorial on Pitch Hill. Susanne*

**Sat 25 Oct 2008 Ghosts, Hills & Downs in Hampshire (Circular) 22ml with 1000m ascent.**

Start Rowlands Castle Stn 9:21 Depart London Waterloo 8:00, change at Haslemere. Or depart Waterloo station 7:45 direct. Return trains at 32 & 46 past the hour. Sorry no pub this time (and therefore no ghost either), please bring a picnic, as the haunted Royal Oak Hooksway will be closed for holidays. . Tea at the Red Lion in Chalton: Hampshire's oldest pub, licensed in 1503, with a beautiful thatched roof. Telegraph article. Map Exp 120. Joint walk with Surrey Walking Club. Ldr Jill Goddard and Paul Lawrence will replace Nicole Carbonara.

*Summary: 22 miles with 1000m ascent. Ldr Jill Goddard and Paul Lawrence replaced Nicole Carbonara*

*There were 12 of us, a mix of LDWA and SWC, and Jill lead at a very good fast pace. The pub was closed for holidays but we had been warned to bring sandwiches. We sheltered out of the wind in Harting Down to eat our lunch. It was rather windy but the views were attractive with some lovely autumn colours. The tea stop was excellent, with a live fire, and the tea break was well deserved, we've had to work hard for it! We got back to Rowlands Castle one hour ahead of your estimated time, partly due to a short lunch break and partly due to the group's good pace. The route devised was lovely and the weather kind to us but a little overcast and windy.*

**Sun 19 Oct 2008 12th Founders Challenge 26ml**

Start from Peaslake Memorial Hall, GR TQ085447, on good fps & tks in the Surrey hills. Route incls places associated with the LDWA founders - Blatchford Down, Steers Field, Tanners Hatch YH, the Toposcope on Pitch Hill & the Old Peaslake PO. Start: walkers 09.00; runners 10.00.

### **Sun 12 Oct 2008 Lewes 20ml. Very hilly.**

Start Lewes Stn 9:58. Depart London Victoria 8:47. Return trains at 16 min past the hour. Lewes to Glynde up and across SDW then down to Flying Fish pub in Denton for lunch. Afternoon through Newhaven to Telscombe via Piddington then round to Lewes via Kingston. Ldr Don Bolton.

*Summary: 20 miles. Ldr Don Bolton*

*25 people set off on this very hilly walk on a misty Sunday morning. We stopped at the Caburn Fort viewpoint but the morning mist prevented us seeing the great views from this elevated position even though the photos taken here do not make it look too misty. After going through Glynde 2 of our party left us and the remaining 23 went up the long hill to the SDW. From there down to Denton for lunch at the Flying Fish pub. Lunch took 1 hr 15 mins and then over the Newhaven bridge and round the nature reserve to Piddinghoe. The final 6 of our party had become detached and got lost here and it took about 20 minutes to find them.*

*Through Telscombe and in glorious weather with fantastic views the long walk round and back up to the SDW. Because of our delays 19 took the short route back to Kingston and into Lewes to ensure that they would get the 18.16 train back to London. 4 of us continued the walk and were rewarded with great views and a magnificent sunset. Don*

### **Sat 4 Oct 2008 Founders Challenge Marshals' Walk 26ml.**

Start NT car park at Steers Field on Ranmore Common Road, GR TQ142503 9:30. Depart London Victoria 8:30 (Clapham Jct 08:39) arriving Boxhill & West Humble 09:21.

### **Sat 4 Oct 2008 The Southern Wealdway**

20 miles. Ldr Jerome Ripp

*Summary: 15 people came on the walk including 1 new member, 2 from Sussex group and 2 from Surrey group. Morning was fine but afternoon was blustery rain. We went down the Wealdway to Chiddingly and back on the Vanguard way. We hurried back as the weather seemed to be getting worse. There is only 1 train an hour and we decided to aim for the 4:34 return train. To be sure of catching it we went to Buxted which is 1 stop up the line from Uckfield. However the 6 people from other groups had come by cars which were parked at Uckfield. So for the last 2 miles the group split and they returned separately. They all said they were happy to do this, they knew the way and they are all experienced walkers whom I know. Jerome*

### **Sun 28 Sep 2008 Haslemere Circular**

18 miles. Ldr Don Bolton

*Summary: 18 of us assembled at Haslemere Station just after 9.30am, 6 of these were women that I had never met before. The weather was beautiful, a clear sky, sunny and very warm later in the day. This was an 18 mile circular walk with almost 11 miles before lunch. We circled east then north to Combe Court via Grayswood, past Sandhills to join the Greensand Way. At mid-day I phoned the Three Horse Shoes pub in Thursley to tell them I had 18 people who wanted a drink and 12 of them also wanted a meal. In just over an hour on the Greensand Way we stopped for our lunch. We had reserved tables in the garden, service was quite good for such a large group and the food excellent. After a very lively lunch we were again on the Greensand Way up and into the Devils Punchbowl. A very scenic area with wonderful tree and scrub plant colouring. We stopped briefly at*

*the Hindhead NT Cafe for tea and then followed the Greensand Way back to Haslemere. Pace was moderate (3.1mph) and most of our new companions said that they will join the LDWA. A very sociable and enjoyable day. Don*

### **Sat 20 Sep 2008 A literary pilgrimage 21ml.**

Start Stonegate Stn 9:25. Depart London Charing Cross 8:15 or London Bridge. Around Burwash in the Weald. Pub stop but bring a picnic lunch. Map Exp 136. Ldr Jerome Riamily: Verdana;"> Manningtree Stn Circular 16ml. Start Manningtree Stn 10:54. Depart Liverpool Street 09.02. Frequent Return trains every half hour. Lunch: Tea Room at Flatford Mill (Constable) or picnic. Via Stour saltmarshes. Tea at Station pub. Ldr Peter Russell.

*Summary: 19 miles. Ldr Jerome Ripp*

*We had 14 on the walk and a glorious day. We had a picnic in a field followed by a short snooze. There was one new person and several who were relatively new or from the south coast. There were only a few regulars. The views were superb and I think that all were happy. Jerome*

### **Sat 13 Sep 2008 Great Missenden**

*Summary: 21 miles. Ldr Chris Dent*

*Overcast conditions met the assembled company of 17 hardy souls in downtown Buckinghamshire. The South Bucks Way was heavy going leading away from the start, and the group was soon spread out across the many muddy fields. By mid-morning at the "coffee stop" at Little Hampden, the sun had broken through the clouds, and the mood of the group changed to a much sunnier disposition. The Ridgeway was reached, and the route turned westwards skirting the Chequers estate, and then headed towards the Coombe Hill viewpoint and the steady climb to the famous Monument to the locals who had served in the Boer War. Memories of the Chilterns 100 came flooding back !! Group photos were taken, and the word "lunch" was mentioned so a fast descent was made in the direction of Wendover and the Shoulder of Lamb pub. The two Daves departed the scene and headed for the station for pressing engagements elsewhere. The afternoon route followed the Ridgeway eastwards, and then veered south along the Chiltern Way. Approaching Gt Missenden, we were treated to the sight of hot air balloons in flight against the setting sun. Trust you are now well on the way to full recovery. Chris*

### **Sat 6 Sep 2008 The Green Chain from Crystal Palace to Erith c18ml.**

Start Crystal Palace Stn 9:30. Due to engineering works, take either the 08:45 from Victoria to Selhurst, arriving 09:10. Then 09:14 rail replacement bus, arriving Crystal Palace at 09.30 or 09:03 from London Bridge to Norwood Junction, arriving 09:16. Then 09:18 rail replacement bus, arriving Crystal Palace at 09:30. Lunch stop Oxleas Wood cafe. Good facilities for picnickers. No pub this time. Ldrs Malcolm & Marita Sanders.

*Summary: 18 miles. Ldrs Malcolm & Marita Sanders*

*Despite recent torrential downpours and soggy forecasts, six trusting walkers met at the Crystal Palace end of the Green Chain on Saturday morning. Some, with eyes on the sky, shortened the walk at Oxleas Wood. The incurable optimists kept right on through the final, greenest sections of Woodlands Farm, East Wickham Open Space, Bostall Heath and Franks Park and made it to Erith Riverside. Marita*

**Sun 31 Aug 2008 Sudbury to Marks Tey Linear 18ml.**

Start Sudbury Stn 10:34. Depart Liverpool Street 9:02. Change at Marks Tey. Car Drivers park at Marks Tey and also catch the 10:15 train to Sudbury. Return trains at 23 & 39 mins past the hour. Via Stour Valley Path. Lunch: The Lion, Lamarsh. Maps LR 155 & 168. Ldr Peter Russell.

*Summary: 18 miles. Ldr Peter Russel*

*Eleven of us walked along the Stour Valley on a sultry day. First stop was Great Henny church where 'Love birds wrecked spire' thence to a good lunch at La Marsh and onto to Wormingford Church. Here everyone except Dave voted against a diversion to a secret bunker near its disused airport via overgrown paths and a toxic waste dump (both very Essex, and what might explain why no one from local groups attended the walk). We dropped South to Marks Tey and picked some perfect blackberries before getting the 5.32/6 trains to Colchester or London with seconds to spare and everyone said they had enjoyed the walk. Peter*

**Sun 17 Aug 2008 Greensand Way Linear Walk Part 1. 18 ml.**

Start Haslemere Stn 9:32. Depart London Waterloo 8:30. If anyone wants to park in the centre of Haslemere and does not want to backtrack to the station, we will be passing the Town Hall between 09:45 and 10:00. We will stop for lunch at The Dog and Pheasant (01428 682763), near Brook, after 8 miles. Return trains from Godalming to Waterloo every hour at 56 minutes past the hour. Buy a cheap day return to Haslemere. Ldr Susanne Waldschmidt. This is the first of a series of walks Susanne will lead over the next couple of years covering the entire Greensand Way.

*Summary: 20 miles. Ldr Susanne Waldschmidt*

*Number of Walkers: 10, including leader (8 members & 2 non-members - 1 was on holiday from Germany. Weather: Very Good. A fairly strenuous but beautiful walk with lots of ups and downs. Very enjoyable with really good social interaction. Everyone seemed to enjoy the relaxed pace. Susanne*

**Sat 2 Aug 2008 Guildford to Haslemere Linear 20ml.**

Start Guildford Stn 9:03. Depart London Waterloo 8:30. Frequent return trains from Haslemere to London and Guildford. Those travelling from London by train should buy return tickets to Haslemere. Pub at Goldaming. Tea stop at Chiddingfold. Ldr: David Williams.

*Summary: 20 miles. Ldr Dave Williams*

*A group of 22 hardy souls set off little knowing what they were letting themselves in for! Because the leader had failed to note the opening times we arrived at the planned morning coffee-stop at the Watts Gallery far too early which didn't bode well for the rest of the day! However there were no more setbacks & we arrived at the lunch stop in Godalming where 11 of us made short work of the hearty portions on offer. The weather remained fair as we resumed after lunch, the only casualty being Don B. who had the misfortune to slip off a stile but stoically carried on. After tea at Chiddingfold the group carried on without further mishap to reach Haslemere at about 6.30pm with the leader's reputation just about intact ! Dave.*

**Sat 19 Jul 2008 Rye to Hastings 17ml - Joint Walk with Sussex Group.**

Start Rye Stn at 10:51. Depart London Bridge at 8:53 (change at St Leonards Warrior). Car drivers should park in Hastings and meet 10:34 train to Rye. Bring a picnic lunch. Optional inexpensive authentic Thai meal in 2nd hand bookshop at finish in Hastings. Frequent return trains to London. Booking preferable for meal (by July 13, to kloraso@aol.com) but just turn up for walk. Ldr Kathy LoRaso

**Sun 13 Jul 2008 Haywards Heath circular. 21 ml.**

Start Haywards Heath Station 9:45. Depart London Victoria 8:47 or London Bridge 8:41. Around Ardingly Reservoir and High Weald Landscape Trail. No lunchtime pub so bring sandwiches. Brisk pace. Ldr Paul Tilley

**Sun 22 Jun 2008 Polegate to Newhaven c19ml.**

Start Polegate Station at 10:11. Depart Victoria 8:47. Short morning coffee break at Arlington Tea Gardens (5km) then lunch in Alfriston (14 km), where there are several pubs and cafés and we can split up. If people so wish, they can also have an afternoon tea break at Exceat or Seaford, and even a paddle in the sea at Seaford! As it's midsummer, daylight is no problem, and public transport in the area is so good that there are several points where people can leave early if they wish. The last train connection from Newhaven to London departs 21:28. If there are any people who want to get a move on I can give them a copy of the route instructions for the Vanguard Way, which we join at Berwick Station. Drivers could leave cars at Lewes or Newhaven then train(s) to Polegate. Ldr Colin Saunders

*19 miles. Ldr Colin Saunders*

*Summary: written by Lesley Secker*

*There was a turn-out of 21 bipeds, plus Holly and Tilly. As we all gathered outside Polegate Station, true to Colin's usual custom the map was held up on the wall while he indicated the day's route with the promise of several watering holes on the way (morning coffee, lunch, afternoon tea) along with a fine dollop of splendid views and plenty of fresh air. Oh.... and a little bit of exercise thrown in for good measure! The first few miles took us via Abbotts Wood and as Colin planned to push on to Alfriston for lunch he decided on a morning coffee stop, at the "idyllic" Arlington Tea Garden, to keep us going until then. It was a charming little establishment which also sold plants and sported a small menagerie, including chickens, a fine rooster; a couple of chinchillas in a cage plus a golden Labrador puppy curled up on a blanket sleeping peacefully in the sun (obviously had the right idea). After this welcome refreshment stop we set off for Berwick Station via Arlington Reservoir. We made a brief stop at the station to look at plaque on the wall which commemorated the relaunching of the Vanguard Way by the National Chairman of the Ramblers Association on 6 May 1998. Here we joined the Vanguard Way, taking us into Berwick village and then on to Alfriston where the group dispersed to various hostelries and tea stops to have lunch. After lunch we started off following the Cuckmere River. The two Labradors enjoyed the romp along the banks and they both tested out their swimming skills, while we humans could only marvel at their agility and speed! Following the river as far as Littlington we diverted through the village, descended into Charleston Bottom (Friston Forest) to shortly ascend the 200 or so steps, taking us up through Westdean to the gap in the wall where our efforts were rewarded with the fine view of the Cuckmere River as it opens out into the sea. We then descended into Exceat and on to the coast - then over Seaford Head into Seaford. with a bracing wind to either help or hinder our pace depending on our individual aerodynamic qualities!! Our final watering hole for the day was the kiosk right on the seafront next to the Martello Tower*

*with picnic benches on the beach where customers can sit to enjoy their cups of tea, cakes and ice-creams while they watch the waves and breathe in the briny air. The Martello Tower houses an interesting folk/local history museum and well worth a visit, but already closed when we arrived. Some hardy souls pushed on to Newhaven with Colin to complete the 19 miles while a few of us took the soft option and called it a day at Seaford. Great walk!!!*

**Sun 15 Jun 2008 Dorking c23ml.**

Start Dorking Stn at 9:32 Depart Victoria 8:36 (Clapham Junction 8:42). Return trains 26 and 56 min past the hour. Route is via the Nower and up Leith Hill to the Kings Head at Holmbury St. Mary for lunch. Then up Holmbury Hill, Pitch Hill and on to Peaslake and Abinger Hammer. Return along the valley to Westcott, up the hill to Ranmore and through Denbies wine fields to Dorking. Maps Exp 146 or LR 187. Ldr Don Bolton

**Sat 7 Jun 2008 Around the South Downs 22 ml.**

Start Hassocks Stn at 09.36. Depart London Bridge at 08.41. Frequent return trains. Lunch at the Devils Dyke Hotel. Maps: LR 193. Ldr Lonica Vanclay

**Sat 24 May 2008 Glynde Circular by Arlington Reservoir 21/25ml.**

Start Glynde Stn 9:14. Depart Victoria 7:47 change at Lewes 9:09. Return trains at 22 minutes past the hour from Glynde and frequent from Lewes. Pub lunch at Yew Tree Inn in Arlington or picnic. Tea stop at the Ram Inn in Firle. Possible return by Mt Caburn (500ft) & Lewes (+4ml). Car drivers who are returning by Mt Caburn should park in Lewes and catch the 9:09 train to Glynde. Map Exp 123. Ldr Nicole Carbonara.

21 or 25 miles. Conductor Nicole Carbonara  
Joint Stroll SWC-London LDWA

*Summary: written by Peter Crane SWC*

*This joint stroll with London LDWA saw a turnout of 21 gathering at Glynde station on a bright and breezy morning. Only four of the party were Surrey members - Paul Tilley, David Watson, Peter Crane and Nicole, the conductor. We set off at a brisk pace onto the top of the South Downs and soon felt the full force of the breeze as we turned eastwards. However it was sunny and warm and a morning that afforded excellent views in all directions. We came down and through the delightful streets of Alfriston before climbing up Wilmington Hill and making a steep descent by the Long Man.. Some descended quicker than others, but none as swiftly as the kestrel seen hovering and then swooping down upon its prey. We gathered again onto the Wealdway and proceeded to the Yew Tree at Arlington for lunch. We had already covered 13 miles by this time. Some enjoyed a picnic lunch in the sun while others took advantage of the inn's menu. After lunch we set off back in a westerly direction around Arlington Reservoir and past Berwick station along a short section of the Vanguard Way and then along varied paths through wood and fields at a lower level than in the morning. There was an event going on at Charleston Farm but after a short stop, we all avoided any distraction and continued apace past Firle Place to the village of West Firle and the Ram Inn, where to maintain the Surrey tradition (LDWA do not normally have a tea stop) most of us had a welcome cup of tea, although it necessitated some cups having to be re-washed as they did not have enough cups for the whole party. Clearly they are not used to such a large group stopping for tea. Some stopped at Glynde station after a good 21 miles but a good half of the party were still ready for the extra four miles via Mount Caburn and a return home*

*from Lewes. Nicole had chosen an excellent route and the weather proved ideal for a very enjoyable day's walking.*

**Sun 27 Apr 2008 Manningtree Stn Circular 16ml.**

Start Manningtree Stn 10:54. Depart Liverpool Street 09:02. Frequent Return trains every half hour. Lunch: Tea Room at Flatford Mill (Constable) or picnic. Via Stour saltmarshes. Tea at Station pub. Ldr Peter Russell.

**Sat 12 Apr 2008 'A New broom sweeping clean in the weald' 20ml.**

Start High Brooms Stn (Nr. Tunbridge Wells) 09:10. Depart Charing Cross 08:15. Return trains every 30 mins. Pub lunch at the Crown Inn at Groombridge or picnic. Free car park at the station. Map: LR 188. Ldr: Jerome Ripp.

**Sun 30 Mar 2008 Haslemere 18ml.**

Start Haslemere Stn 10:11. Depart London Waterloo 08:37. Return Trains every 30 mins. Pub Lunch The Kings Arms at Fernhurst. Ldr: Chris Dent.

**Sun 2 Mar 2008 Wendover 20ml.**

Start Wendover Stn approx 9:15. Depart London Marylebone 08:27. Lunch at the Valiant Trooper in Aldbury. Map Exp 181. Ldr. Nick Marshall

**Sat 16 Feb 2008 Wildfowl Reserve and Bough Beach Reservoir 26ml.**

Start Sevenoaks Stn 08:50. Depart Charing Cross 8:15 (or London Bridge 08:23). Frequent return trains. Lunch at The Wheatsheaf at Bough Beech or picnic. Map Exp 147. Bring a torch. Ldr Nicole Carbonara.