

Guildford Boundary Walk - Sunday October 12th 2008 - Report

83 walkers and runners started our 3rd relaunched Guildford Boundary Walk (& the 18th overall). The walk was originally devised by Alan and Barbara Blatchford and first run in 1972.

It was organised jointly by Surrey Group of the Long Distance Walkers Association and Unisport at the University of Surrey.

After a foggy start, the weather became fine and decidedly warm. It brought out the crowds at Newlands Corner, which was packed and the Chantry Woods Car Park became full, too. The weather forecast encouraged a few more entries – but it would help the organisers if more people pre-entered. There is a good financial incentive to do that!

Those that did do the event said they'd enjoyed it and liked the route. Dawn Potter from Surrey University Emailed to say:

“Just want to thank all of you for a fantastically organised event yesterday. Everybody was very friendly and the route instructions were great. And what a lovely place to run! I shall be back for more.”

Any other comments would be welcome, and please spread the word about it.

Fabrile Leistner did the fastest time, running it in 1 minute under 3 hours – the same time as last year's quickest. We had fewer runners than normal this year, with the Windsor half-marathon on the same day. All but 4 of the starters finished the course. 2 who didn't, cut it short to walk home – very tempting! At least 1 person's time included the time spent in the Bull's Head at Clandon – it's not a race, so as long as you get back in time, fine. And one couple spent a lot of time taking photographs. 2 entrants downloaded last year's route description from the website, rather than using this year's, so they went slightly wrong. We do check it every year for any necessary changes.

14 year old David Tremain was our youngest finisher, who walked it with his mum, while his dad ran. It would be good to have a lot more young entrants – both my & Tony's children did it when they – and we – were younger!

We had a little problem at the Newlands Corner check point, where 2 of the intended marshals had put the date down for the 19th, & not the 12th! This resulted in a last minute substitution of biscuits for bananas there, but we hope no one was troubled by this.

The marshals' walk to do a last check of the route and to give a chance to helpers on the day, to walk it, was held on September 20th. Jackie Barker, Elizabeth Bryan, Gillian Bull, Dave Challenger, Janet Chapman, John Dixon, Molly Groundsell, Richard Ireson, John Lay & Ian McLeod did it in 8 hours.

A note for your diary – Guildford Boundary Walk 2009 – Sunday Oct 11th

Thanks

Organising Committee – Gavin Baker (Unisport), Tony Cartwright, Keith Chesterton,

Posters & Signage - Gavin Baker

Registration - Tony Cartwright, Pat Challenger, Nigel Barraclough

Start – Keith Chesterton, Dave Challenger

CP1 - Janet Chapman, Molly Groundsell, Elizabeth Bryant, Ian McLeod

CP2 – Dave & Pat Challenger, Louise Cartwright, Cindy McLeod

CP3 – Richard Ireson, Nigel Barraclough, Gavin Baker, Janet Chapman

Finish - Tony Cartwright, Molly Groundsell, Elton Ellis, Ian McLeod, Keith Chesterton

Closing Down Marshal & Photographer – Keith Chesterton

Route Description - Tony Cartwright

Entries – Fiona Cameron

Results – Tony Cartwright

And grateful thanks to the University of Surrey for the use of their facilities & to the owners of Wareham's Farm, for allowing us to site CP1 on their land.

Pictures of the walk can be found by going to the Picture Gallery on

www.ldwasurrey.co.uk

Keith Chesterton, October 13th, 2008