

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION - SURREY GROUP

NOT THE WINTER TANNERS

10th January 1988

REPORT AND RESULTS

Organiser: John Westcott
Printing: Chris Steer
Artwork for Entry Forms, Final Details and Certs: Tony Youngs
Route Devised by: John Westcott and Tony Youngs
Route Checking: Ken Mayhew, Chris Steer and Tony Youngs
Marshals and Helpers on the Day: Olive Barneley, Dave Green,
Harry Lowe, Cynthia McLeod, Ken Mayhew, Ricci Mayhew,
Graham Peddie, Margaret Steer and Ken Styau,

Entries: 259

Starters: 222

Finishers: 204

As I said in the final details, the main concern when devising the route of a walk for 10th January 1988 was to find paths which were not blocked with trees following the storms last October. It was soon evident that the proposed route for the Tanners Marathon on Sunday 3rd July 1988 would not be walkable by 10th January so the thirteenth "Winter Tanners" had to be postponed until 1989 and the first "Not the Winter Tanners" arranged instead.

The obvious way to find paths without trees blocking them was to aim for the non wooded area to the east of the A24 and the south of the A25. This would also have the bonus of taking walkers into an area which is not often walked on the Tanners because of the difficulty of having several hundred walkers crossing the busy A25 twice on a summer Sunday. However, other problems can arise by taking a route through farmland in the Mole Valley during the middle of winter. True it would be muddy but LDVA walkers do not mind that, in fact, many are very disappointed if their winter walks are dry underfoot, but many of the low lying areas are likely to be flooded at this time of year and even LDVA walkers are a little reluctant to wade through water up to the waist.

Persistent rain in the fortnight prior to the event ensured it would be muddy underfoot but the weather was kind enough to us on the day. As the early walkers set off in the gloom of daybreak, the sky, although overcast, gave promise of a rain-free day and that's the way it proved to be. I must comment, on some drivers as they arrived in the car park, I did doubt their navigational abilities when many of them insisted on going to the left of the bollard whereas the arrow pointed to the right. I wondered how they would get on with understanding the route description.

Of the 259 entries there were 222 who made the starting line setting off between 7.30 and 9.15 a.m. Walkers and runners found it misty in the morning and had to negotiate the steeply-chess course in the section from Prospect Lodge to Tanners. My own thoughts are that if Graham Peddie (The Tanners Hatch Youth

Hostel Warden) can walk the path every day to get from his home to his place of work I'm sure the Not the Winter Tanners walkers could manage it just once.

After Tanners the route skirted round the woods of Ransmore Common then went steeply down the scarp slope (so much loved by Tanners walkers) to the A25 at Westcott and thence via the River to North Holmwood. Walkers considered it had been muddy so far but now they were to experience real mud, more in line with Kent Group walks, as the route went through field after field. It was something of a relief to have the firmness of the coach road track just before the first checkpoint at Brockham. Some of the early ones through were treated to the church bells across the meadows as they approached Brockham for the first time. Derek Earl did comment that it was appropriate that they were playing "Fight the Good Fight" as he crossed those 7 fields because he thought it was like the Somme must have been in the first world war but then as he came to the checkpoint the bells were playing "All Things Bright and Beautiful" which summed up his feelings at the reception he got from the marshals there.

Everybody was in a muddy state as they came into Brockham for the first time but if possible they were even muddier when coming in for the second time. There was one rather bedraggled dalmation by the name of Marcus who was taking Tony Briggs round and Tony would like to thank his fellow walkers who helped the dog over the many stiles between those fields.

After visiting Brockham for the second time, the route did get a little better underfoot. First the coach road again then up over Box Hill to go down Juniper Bottom. I understand there was more difficulty with mud in ascending the ridge out of Juniper Bottom which I must admit did surprise me. There was a lot of tarac after this. I'm sorry for the long walk along that drive in Herbury Park although most I spoke to considered it a relief from the mud and rather welcomed the firm surface. I did try to get away from it, at least for part of the way, but all paths I checked were unsuitable. This included one path where the winds had uprooted a tree which had also taken the ground with it leaving the path about 2 feet wide and a drop of 30 feet. Not the ideal situation to put walkers through where they may be walking it in the dark.

There were 204 who finished the route which meant meant an abnormally high number of 18 retirements. Both a record for a "Not the Winter Tanners". Richard Brown got round the course fastest taking 4 hours 42 minutes. It is interesting that Richard was representing the Surrey Walking Club but I bet he was "lifting" on occasions.

Most who finished said they enjoyed themselves in spite of the muddy conditions although there was one person who seriously suggested that I should not have held the event in such conditions. I had many participants thank the marshals and helpers for the way they were looked after. I would also like to add my thanks to the marshals. Also to Tony Youngs for helping me with his local knowledge to find a feasible route and to Tony, Chris Steer and Ken Kayhew for checking the route including their reports in the week prior to the event when I was anxious that more winds would bring more trees down which may block paths on route.

On the multi event entry form I did invite entrants to make a donation to the National Trust and Hurtwood control - two organisations who help to look after our footpaths in Surrey. At the close of Winter Tanners entries the fund stood at £121.20 and I would like to thank all those who contributed on behalf of the National Trust and Hurtwood Control. I received very appreciative letters from both organisations when I sent the donations in 1987.

The Tanners Marathons will be held on Sunday 3rd July 1988 but only the 10 and 30 miles - the planned 50 miler will not take place. Details can be obtained from me in due course by sending a stamped addressed envelope.

John Westcott (Organiser)

LIST OF FINISHERS

Richard BROWN (Surrey WC)	4.42	Don MILLICHAPE	8.01
Mark PICKARD (Surrey)	4.55	Chris HOLMES (Coll'wood AC)	8.06
Jeff CAMPBELL (Surrey)	5.26	Rob WILSON (Collingwood AC)	8.06
Jeff Newton (LDWA)	5.29	Andrew MURDOCH (Met Pol C)	8.13
Hartyn GRAYES (Sussex)	5.43	David GOULD (Met Pol C)	8.13
David WHITEHEAD (Surrey)	5.49	Clarke JARRETT (Met Pol C)	8.13
Clifford ASTLEY (Feltham P)	6.03	Louise CARTWRIGHT (Surrey)	8.14
Peter PHAIR (Feltham P)	6.03	Tony CARTWRIGHT (Surrey)	8.14
Bob EASTHOUGH (Feltham P)	6.03	Trevor BLAKE	8.15
Bill BUTTERWORTH (Fel'm P)	6.03	Ron RUVETH (Kent)	8.15
Robert GUTTERIDGE (LDWA)	6.05	Don NEWMAN (Surrey)	8.16
Victor GUTTERIDGE (LDWA)	6.08	Richard TOMBS	8.19
Tony HIGGINS (LDWA)	6.08	Tyroce ELLEKER	8.20
John ROBINSON (Surrey)	6.12	Ros YOUNG	8.23
John ALLEN (Temp Bar)	6.31	Bob Stephenson (Temp Bar)	8.23
Derek EARL (Sussex)	6.32	Kathy CRILLEY (Surrey)	8.23
Alan WATERS (Sussex)	6.33	Colin VANE (Temp Bar)	8.24
Tony BRIGGS (Surrey)	6.53	Derek WISDOM	8.24
Ake INGHAMMAR (South'n Nav)	7.03	Peter SHORT (Surrey)	8.24
Bigel COATES (Sussex)	7.09	James CRAWFORD (Surrey)	8.24
Tim CARTER (Sussex)	7.15	Brian HENNET (Met Pol C)	8.26
Sean McMICHAEL (Temp Bar)	7.18	Peter HOWE (Met Pol C)	8.26
John FINCH (Temp Bar)	7.18	Martin WYNER (Met Pol C)	8.26
Viv HILL (Temp Bar)	7.18	Gordon FACER (Anglian)	8.27
Phil MITCHELL (Temp Bar)	7.18	Dave HARRISON	8.27
Dave WYLIE (Temp Bar)	7.18	Ronald CORKHILL (Kent)	8.28
Steve LOBLEY (Temp Bar)	7.24	John HARRISON	8.31
Debbie COOPER (Wessex)	7.26	Jill GREEP (Wessex)	8.33
Nigel ROBINSON (Surrey)	7.29	Graham ROWLING (BBW)	8.33
Eric SANDS (Surrey)	7.41	Liz HIGGINS (Surrey)	8.35
Sandra HOUGHTON (Feltham P)	7.45	Dan HADFIELD (Surrey)	8.37
Paul HOUGHTON (Feltham P)	7.45	Harold GRAY (T Valley)	8.38
Robert TOMBS	7.45	John PROBERT (Kent)	8.39
Brian HAXBY (LDWA)	7.46	David PETERS (LDWA)	8.40
Chris HICKS	7.47	Phillip PETERS	8.40
Richard EMSLEY (Temp Bar)	7.49	Keith CHESTERTON (Surrey)	8.41
Duncan SMITH (Temp Bar)	7.49	Colin WOOD (Surrey)	8.42
Paul RUTTER	7.53	Thomas BROWNLEE	8.45
Mark RUTTER	7.53	Simon BROWNLEE	8.45
Bob FORD (T Valley)	7.54	Roger SMITH (LDWA)	8.49
Kevin BROMLEY (Surrey)	7.57	Don SCOTT (Kent)	8.51

Jim DUNSTER (Surrey)	8.51	Richard STOKES (Surrey)	9.44
Tony YOUNGS (Surrey)	8.52	David DRAPER (BBW)	9.44
Paul HATCHER (Kent)	8.54	Peter ENGLEDOV (Kent)	9.44
James PALMER (Surrey)	8.54	Ros SMITH (Kent)	9.44
Roger Le MOINE (Surrey WC)	8.55	Martin MACBY (Kent)	9.44
Peter WATERHOUSE (LDWA)	8.56	Arthur ATTWOOD (Wessex)	9.44
Roy BARNESLEY (Surrey)	8.58	David FEE (Wessex)	9.44
Ian McLEOD (Surrey)	8.58	Anthony FEAT	9.47
Dave CHALLENGER (Surrey)	8.58	Geoff DEPPER (Sussex)	9.49
Janet CHAPMAN (LDWA)	8.58	Ron PARSONS (Sussex)	9.49
Roy DILLIWAY	8.59	Paul CLIFFORD (Brighton WC)	9.49
Alexander JOHNSTON	8.59	Jo KING (EVAS)	9.50
Dave WOODYER (Surrey)	8.59	Tony IVYMAN (Ess/Herts)	9.51
Barry GUFFOGG (Surrey WC)	9.00	A GUNBY (EVAS)	9.56
Chris COATES (Surrey)	9.07	Michael HUNT (EVAS)	9.56
John CORFIELD (Ess/Herts)	9.07	David DRAPER	9.57
Dave BUCK (Ess/Herts)	9.07	Chris STUBER (Surrey)	9.57
Brian HAIGH (Surrey)	9.09	Jim STEVENS	9.58
Laurie LOWE (Kent)	9.09	John ELRICK	9.58
John GRAY	9.10	Gail ELRICK	9.58
Christine GRAY	9.10	Roger MOSS (Surrey WC)	9.59
Yong Choo TAY (Surrey)	9.10	Barry MARTIN	10.02
Peter HUGHES (Surrey)	9.10	Paul BOURNE (Kent)	10.02
E STRATTON (LDWA)	9.10	Lynae SYDES (Surrey WC)	10.02
K LOVETT (D&V RC)	9.10	D SHELDRAE (Kent)	10.06
Ian DITCHFIELD (D&VRC)	9.11	J S ODDY (Kent)	10.06
Ann BEECHING (Surrey)	9.11	Diane VARLAND (Sussex)	10.07
David HOWSE (Wessex)	9.13	Mavis MARSHALL (Sussex)	10.07
Marcus ROGERS (Ess/Herts)	9.14	Stan HOUGH (T Valley)	10.08
Keith NOBLE (Ess/Herts)	9.16	Joyce TONES	10.10
Jim STROTHER (BBW)	9.16	Ian HUNT	10.13
Alan FIRTH (Surrey)	9.19	Lorraine HUNT	10.13
David COATES (Surrey)	9.21	Roy GRIFITHS (E)	10.13
David BRIDGER (Surrey)	9.21	Derek BOUGHY (Sussex)	10.13
Angus MacARTHUR (Surrey)	9.26	Julie KILNER	10.13
Keith HEWITT (Surrey)	9.26	Chris WATERMAN	10.14
Bill GRACE (Surrey)	9.28	Garvase GREGORY	10.22
M CAMERON-WOOD	9.28	Sarah PEART	10.25
Matt WINTER (Wessex)	9.29	Marc TENPEST	10.25
Keith LIMFOED (D&V RC)	9.30	Vanessa STEWETT (Met P C)	10.25
Enoch BULOCCOFF (EVAS)	9.31	Mark Stevens (Met Pol C)	10.25
Anthony SHOTTER (Surrey)	9.32	Nigel BUNTON (Met Pol C)	10.25
Nedine GILL (Met Pol C)	9.33	Sean DOWLING (Met Pol C)	10.25
Elizabeth McCOWACHIE (NPC)	9.33	Alan RANKIN (Met P C)	10.25
Robert CAMERON-WOOD	9.34	Nicholas WILLIAMS (Met P C)	10.25
John CREESE (Reading WC)	9.34	Jeaneline JONES (Met Pol C)	10.25
Chris GOODMAN (Ess/Herts)	9.37	Stuart MEADOWCROFT (MPC)	10.30
Martin CRAWLEY (Ess/Herts)	9.37	Andrew CLARK (Met Pol C)	10.30
Gillian BULL (Surrey)	9.37	Pam CHISHOLM (Met Pol C)	10.30
Ivan VERRELL (Kent)	9.37	Carol STEVENS (Met Pol C)	10.30
Wayne DIXON	9.37	Nicholas BOYES (Met Pol C)	10.30
M PARK (Surrey)	9.38	Jana PACK (Met Pol C)	10.30
Colin BERTHAM (LDWA)	9.38	Sharon HOPLAND (Met Pol C)	10.30
Alan SARGANT (Surrey)	9.40	Tara McCLEMMENTS (Met P C)	10.30
Chris SARGANT	9.40	Amanda BASON (Met Pol C)	10.30
Barrie MORGAN (Kent)	9.41	Peter ANDS	10.45
Chris MORGAN	9.41	Ramon O'DWYER	10.45
John WISE (R'ng RC)	9.42	Shiela MOORE	10.49
Michael ATTWOOD (Kent)	9.42	Colin ROBERTS (NW Kent RA)	10.49
John VINNELS (Kent)	9.43	Frances CARTER REES	11.07
Julian VINNELS	9.43	Paul GRF ORY	11.17