

# *The Rambler*

*February 2014*



## **Registration for Nijmegen is now open!**

**We have already had lots of applications  
but there is still room for yours!**

If you require any of the forms for registration let us know, if you need any information and you can't find the answers on our website then we are here for you!

**British Dutch Walking  
Fellowship**

Volume 86

Friday 7th February 2014

Contents:

[Registration now Open!](#)

[Committee post reshuffle](#)

[Committee post nominations](#)

[Ballot/feedback form box in](#)

[Nijmegen](#)

[Application Forms](#)

[Dodentocht](#)

[Pre-Nijmegen silk shorts?](#)

[Sea Cadet Ball](#)

[Forthcoming Events](#)

[For Rainy Days...](#)

[Happy Birthday](#)

[Useful Information](#)

# Committee Post Reshuffle

Following the resignation of Gina Coltman from the BDWF Committee post of First Aid & Support Co-ordinator, on which you will have already been advised, it was essential that this vital committee post be filled as quickly as possible. To this end and following a hastily called Emergency Committee meeting, Darren Gray our BDWF Chairman offered his services and has been unanimously co-opted from that role to take over as First Aid & Support Co-ordinator until the post comes up for formal election in 2016. We wish him well in the role having a considerable reputation to live up to.

This move presents a resulting vacancy for the role of Chairperson. Again, this needs to be filled and will be temporarily covered by Katie Elliman in addition to her role as 'Marketing, Media & Membership (UK)'.

The formal election of the committee post of Chairperson is scheduled, using the established three year cycle, for 2015. However, with Katie now also providing the key support to Darren in a First Aid capacity, it is essential that we try and identify a willing BDWF member to be co-opted into taking over as Chairman at the earliest opportunity. Would any current member who is interested in taking over this role and responsibilities please make contact with our Group Secretary, Herman Boston, [secretary@bdwf@gmail.com](mailto:secretary@bdwf@gmail.com) or 07936 390500 to discuss.

---

# Committee Post Nominations

Every 3 years individual BDWF committee posts come up for election.

In order to ensure that all committee experience/expertise cannot be totally lost at a single election, the posts are divided across 3 groups which are annually out of step with one another. In 2014, it will be the posts of:

**BDWF Secretary; Marketing, Media and Membership (MMM) Nederland & Child Protection Officer (CPO).** (For reference C&Rs Issue 9, Draft 4, Appendix 2A item 1).

The current post holders are Herman Boston (Group Secretary), Caroline Kok (MMM Nederland) and Darren Gray (CPO) and all are eligible to stand again for the posts.

Nominations for both posts will be sought from February until 31st May, 2014.

If only one individual is nominated for a particular post, that person will automatically be elected, without a vote being necessary, on Founders Day (the last Saturday of Nijmegen week). If more than one nomination is received for any of the posts up for election, the election will take place in Nijmegen (closing date Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2014) and all qualified members whether in Nijmegen or not are eligible to vote. Election results as appropriate will be declared on Founders Day.

Nomination forms are available on our web site or via the editor — details on the back page of this Rambler. The return address (current Chairman, but not standing for re-election and so able to collate the

nominations) is on the nomination form itself.

Once the deadline for nominations has passed, all details will be cascaded to our members in the June Rambler (distribution date 6th June, 2014) when we will know if a vote is needed. If needed, eligible members not in Nijmegen will be able to request a voting slip — full details will be included in the June Rambler.

---

## **Ballot/Feedback Form Collection Box at Nijmegen**

It has been brought to my notice that we have not been fully complying with what we say we will do with regard to the Ballot/Feedback Form Box whilst in Nijmegen.

At all times we state that the box will be secured by two locks, the keys to which then being held by two volunteer walkers.

In the main this was, with other checking mechanisms, to ensure that any committee post voting process was seen to be secure.

Since it was introduced in 2006 all committee post elections have been uncontested with the incumbent post holder or single volunteer offering their services for the following 3 year cycle being elected unopposed. As a result, the box has only been used from the Thursday night/Friday of the Nijmegen week for collecting member's feedback forms and rarely been locked. Whilst there is no suggestion of any inappropriate action happening as a result of this oversight on our behalf it should have been undertaken and can easily be rectified.

As such, the box will be secured with the two locks, either for a full voting process, just the Feedback Form collection or both.

One key will be held by the recently created post of Walker Liaison (your representative on committee) and the other by a walker volunteer. Together they will open the box on the Thursday evening if a vote for committee posts has been necessary, and/or early on the Saturday morning for the removal of the Feedback Forms. There will be an initial count of the Feedback Forms to identify the minimum number of forms that will be analysed for summary feedback to the membership. Additional forms can be posted or emailed to the nominated recipient on the form until the end of August. In most cases the nominated recipient will be the Walker Liaison who is tasked with the analysis.

As I am the Walker Liaison for the next event I would welcome any participant walker getting in touch either before or at Nijmegen to assist me in this simple but responsible task.

Kind regards,

Roy Hayward

Walker Liaison.

---

## **Dodentocht.**

We Walk Alone Together (Dodentocht)

If you are interested in taking part this year, please contact Andy Bodman

38, Station Road

Shirehampton

Bristol

BS11 9TX

Tel. 0117 982 4990

12 January 2014

Dear All

### **Dodentocht 08/08/14 – We Walk Alone Together**

Travel Dates: Thursday 7 August – Sunday 10 August 2014

It is that time of year when we start preparation for this year's Death March; this letter details the cost of the trip. In 2013 the coach carried 48 people to the Dodentocht. This year the coach will use the ferry again as this will keep the costs down.

If you would like to travel with us to the Dodentocht please complete the attached form and return it to me with the payment and a place will be secured for you.

The cost of the coach trip is £175, if however you are unable to send the full amount now I will accept two payments, one of £75 by Saturday 4 April 2014, followed by £100 on 17 May 2014. We hope you understand the need for full payment early on to ensure all the transportation is secured.

The £175 covers the cost of the coach only based on 20 people travelling with us; however, in previous years the size of our group has enabled me to incorporate the cost of registration, and a t-shirt.

Registration last year cost €38 including a half way meal, and €30 without. We expect this to rise slightly and will let you know once the cost has been confirmed. These costs are based on pre-registering and we plan to do this as a group. This only incurs one international bank charge of approximately £20 for a group payment, making it cheaper. Please complete and return the attached form to me by email.

Please make cheques payable to: Mr. A. Bodman.

Coach Pickup / Set down Points (times TBC):

1. Bristol - Shirehampton
2. Swindon - Hilton, J16 M4
3. Slough - J5 M4
4. Clacket Lane Services, M25
5. Ashford – International Railway Station

The following items will be required for travelling: please ensure you have travel insurance, an EHIC card and a valid passport.

One final point, we cannot accept responsibility for individuals travelling. Your best behaviour is essential. I hope you will travel with us and look forward to a great Dodentocht and seeing old friends. Please feel free to pass this information on to friends who may be interested.

With Very Best Regards,

**Bodders**

**Andy Bodman**

---

## **Pre-Nijmegen silk Shorts? - I don't think so**

### **Swindon Training walk - Sunday 26 January 2014**

Our second training was scheduled at 12 miles starting from Coate water country park at 08:45 on Sunday 26 January. The weather forecast was rain and so I was not expecting a huge turnout. The rain started around 08:30 and continued until we had finished around 12:30pm.

As we set the walkers on their way, we stayed behind in the car park for 20 minutes to pick up late comers. As we waited, a grey 2 door car pulled up and parked over to our left. Two occupants, one an adult male in brown combat gear and a youth dressed in walking trousers, a green T shirt and grey fleece with a black rucksack on his back.

They made their way over to us. I mentioned the group had started walking several minutes ago. What I can do is take you to the main group by car and he can then begin his walk with them from there. This he agreed. We set off with the lad in my car, Darren Gray in his car followed by Dave Holyday in his red sporty number.

We proceeded along Marlborough Road where the group would emerge from the Lawns area and let him out of the car with a map showing where he was and the direction the group and he would travel. I wished him good luck and then moved on. A quarter of a mile later I checked to see where he was because the group had gone by me and I could not find him.

I did a sweep of the area by car searching possible routes he could have taken. Sometime later he was spotted where I had given him a map and set him on his way. I pulled alongside and enquired as to whether he was finding it difficult, when he said he was not supposed to be walking, he was supposed to be bird watching in Coate water country park.

**Oopsy.** He was waiting for his father to collect him and take him back to Coate water.

---

# Sea Cadet Ball

The Marriott Hotel, Swindon

Saturday 24th April 2010, 19:00 till 01:00

£35 per head

to include welcome drink, buffet, live music and entertainment, plus an auction

Preferential rate for B+B (and use of facilities) at the Marriott

Hotel offered – book direct with the hotel on 01793 512121

Ticket Number:

All proceeds to go to supporting Swindon Sea Cadets (reg. charity 305584)

[adminofficer@swindonseacadets.co.uk](mailto:adminofficer@swindonseacadets.co.uk) Tel 01793 532059

S W I N D O N S E A C A D E T B A L L

at

The Marriott Hotel, Swindon

Saturday 26th April 2014,

7pm till 1am

£40 per head inc wine at the table

Price to include welcome drink, three course meal plus wine (half bottle pp),

live music and entertainment, plus an auction and raffle.

Tickets/info from [admin@swindonseacadets.co.uk](mailto:admin@swindonseacadets.co.uk) or tel: 07887 606902

A preferential rate of £61 per room for B+B (and use of spa facilities) at the Marriott Hotel is offered

– book direct by calling Central Reservations on 0800 221 222 and quote S80.

All proceeds to go to supporting Swindon Sea Cadets (reg. charity 305584)

[adminofficer@swindonseacadets.co.uk](mailto:adminofficer@swindonseacadets.co.uk) Tel 01793 532059

S W I N D O N S E A C A D E T B A L L

Ticket number:

---

# Forthcoming Events

## Walks this month:

### February 2014:

**25 - 26th** - Stonehenge Stomp. For more information visit the Amesbury walkers Web site <http://amesburywalkers.webplus.net/page7.html> They also have a variety of other walks listed which are definitely worth a look.

There are two walks organised by Herman taking place in Swindon this month. They both start and finish at Coate water. The dates are...

## Walks in 2014

### April 2014

**26th - 27th** 33rd RAF 2 Day March (provisional date) For more information please visit the website [www.rafwarma.org.uk](http://www.rafwarma.org.uk) and click on RAF two day march.

### May 2014

**3rd - 4th** The Scottish Garelochhead 2 Day Marches 2014 for further information please see the following web site [WWW.scottish2daymarches.co.uk](http://WWW.scottish2daymarches.co.uk)

**24 - 25th** RAF Lyneham 2 day March. For more details contact Herman Boston Tel: 07936 390500 or Email: [hermies@btinternet.com](mailto:hermies@btinternet.com)

As soon as dates are available for more of the regular walks I shall let you know.

There is also an excellent website detailing walks available in the Netherlands - <http://www.wandelkalender.nl/2013/meerdaagse.html>

If you know of other walks that our members would be interested in, please let us know - contact details are at the back of this newsletter.

If you are going on your own walk and would like company please let us know and we will put the word out for you.

---

## For Rainy Days...

As much as some of you would like to be out and about every day we know it isn't always possible. So here are a few things which can help you pass the time when it is raining and you can't get out for a walk...

**You have 1 minute to name the top 8 100 Greatest Brits (answers at the bottom of the page)**

### **Joke Time!**

My budgie broke his leg today so I made him a little splint out of a couple of Swan Vesta's his little face lit up when he tried to walk. Unfortunately, I forgot to remove the sandpaper from the bottom of his cage.

---

We are now truly well into the count down, with registration opening nijmegen 2014 is just around the corner!

**157**  
**Days to go!**

# Happy Birthday!

**Wishing all our members celebrating their Birthday in February Many  
Happy Returns!**

**1st** Lydia Boonen **2nd** Jozien Vercouteren **3rd** Brian Green; Cathie Burridge;  
Benjamin Biggs; Shaun Perry **4th** Peter Gardner; Loren Fuller **5th** Ian  
Shearer; Rachel Shirreffs; Naomi Barton **6th** Wim Magnin; Charlotte  
Rhodes; James Ferguson **7th** Ineke Mulder-Parmentier; Marc Best; Zak  
Westell **8th** Emma Armitage; James Reynolds **9th** Ria van Nunen-Meijs;  
Gareth Miles; Tom Ashdown; Danielle & Riannah Gayle **10th** Nigel  
Goodman; Astrid Rooijen-Jansen **11th** George Buxton; Theo de Bruijn;  
Stephen Wood; Richard Courtney; Gabriella Rolfe **12th** Tina & Teresa  
Blanpain; Emily Collins; George Langlands **13th** Sean Phillips; Daniel  
Maggs **14th** George Harmer; Daniel Foxwell **16th** Robert Vlietstra; Pascal  
Munster; Matthew Cordas **17th** John Robertson; Niek Rouschop; Stefan  
Webster; Katherine Andrews **18th** Jean Robinson **20th** Jan Eggink; Charles  
Shaw **21st** Henk Mounoury; Daniel Westlake; Tanya Newell **22nd** Robert  
Newton; Vaughn Baynes **23rd** Genevieve Williams; Toby Humphries **25th**  
Kim Lentjes **26th** George Beecham MBE; Colin Jarvis; Coby Van Noord;  
Janice Wainwright; Marie Dimaline; Thomas Newbery **27th** Moira Veitch;  
Kristina King **28th** David Barber; Andrew Sprules

**Answers to the quiz: Queen Elizabeth1, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, William  
Shakespeare, Winston Churchill, Isaac Newton, John Lennon, Princess Diana and  
Charles Darwin**

---

Don't Forget - We are on the Web too!

[www.bdwf.org.uk](http://www.bdwf.org.uk)

**You can contact us in many ways:**

**Email:** [info@bdwf.org.uk](mailto:info@bdwf.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 07763026369

**Snail Mail:** 26 Blake Court

Trowbridge

BA14 8WE

**Twitter :**BritishDutchWF

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/groups/bdwnijmegen](http://www.facebook.com/groups/bdwnijmegen)

The most recent posts on the web include information for support crew registering to do Nijmegen with the BDWF and some Bargains found on line for walkers!

---

The British Dutch Walking Fellowship (BDWF) was founded out of the BT Nijmegen group in 2003. The club has no political or sectarian interests, and is non – profit seeking. Membership is open to anyone 12 years and over.

As a member, we want to make sure that you get the best from your relationship with us and that means keeping you informed.

Any news items to be included in the next newsletter should be with Kate by Friday 31st January 2014.

Contributions are always welcome. Remember, every member has a voice and this is the ideal medium to have your say