



The Rambler-July 2013

**British Dutch
Walking Fellowship**

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10 DAYS TO GO!

So, we may be a little bit excited now... time to double check you have everything.

Don't forget you can find a very useful list for packing on the website.

If you have any questions you know how to get in touch!

BDWF Committee Post Elections at Nijmegen 2013

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.

Following a reorganisation of the committee structure and personnel after our Nijmegen 2012 participation, in order to spread the increasing workload and give greater focus on key activities, the posts of Chairperson, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer, First Aid & Support Co-ordinator, Market Media & Membership (UK), Market Media & Membership (Nederland) and Walker Liaison now comprise the key voting roles on the committee.

In addition we also have a Youth Secretary post and a Child Protection post, both of which do not have voting rights and are historically covered within the functions of the key posts identified above.

The Committee posts up for election this year are the First Aid & Support Coordinator, the Group Treasurer and Youth Secretary.

This year's closing date for nominations having passed we can advise all members that the only candidates to receive nominations for the posts are the current committee post holders Gina Coltman, John Nicholson and Herman Boston respectively.

Gina and Herman are long-standing committee members and John was co-opted into the Group Treasurer post following the reorganisation identified above.

As such, with Gina, John and Herman having accepted the nominations, there will not be a need for a formal election process at Nijmegen this year and that Gina, John and Herman will be formally re-elected unopposed at our AGM on Monday 16th July, 2013 in Nijmegen.

We wish Gina, John and Herman continued success over the next 3 years in the posts.

The ex-US Presidential ballot box, purchased after Nijmegen 2006, will now once again be used as a 'Feedback Form' box at the end of the 2013 weeks' walk.

Tokens

Once again the sportshall is running a cashless system. To acquire drinks from the bar, you are required to purchase blue and yellow tokens from the admin office. May I also remind you that only drinks bought on the premises can be consumed on the premises?

Blue tokens = soft drinks and sweets

Yellow tokens = alcohol

Registration in Nijmegen on Sunday or Monday

On your registration letter (You will receive in your welcome pack in Nijmegen) , it mentions which registration desk you desk you are to sign in on the days prior to the walking days. Your registration will be activated here and you will be given the documents you need to participate in the Four Days Marches.

If the [Wedren](#) is your start location, you are required to report in person at the registration desk in 'Julianapark Noord' nearby the Wedren on either Sunday 14 July between 13.00 and 17.00 hrs or on Monday 15 July between 10.00 and 17.00 hrs.

We would like to advise you to keep in mind that it is likely that there is a lot of traffic congestion in and around Nijmegen, so please allow plenty of time for your journey to avoid arriving on the Wedren after the registration desks have closed. The registration desks close at 17.00 hrs on both days. You will not be able to take part in the 97th Four Days Marches if you do not report at the registration desk during the period indicated above.

Herman and the Student Liaison will be taking all students and cadets into town on Sunday between 12:00 and 1:00pm to register, and note the location of the coach drop-off and pick up each walking day. Adults who are new to Nijmegen are welcome to join us.

Required Documentation

You will need to present a valid form of identification and the confirmation of your registration when you report to the registration desk on Sunday or Monday. Your registration cannot be activated without this confirmation.

Your BDWF ID card (in your welcome pack) and your registration letter is all you will require. BDWF have been approved our ID card as being acceptable form of ID.

It is not possible to authorise somebody else to register on your behalf; each participant in the Four Days Marches must register in person on Sunday or Monday.

Special rules apply to group participants and military contingents. The leader of the group or contingent collects all group members' documents and ensures that he/she has a copy of each of their IDs when registering.

What time can I start

Digital participant registration

All participants (including group participants and those in military contingents) will be given a personalised bar code wristband upon registration. This bar code [wristband](#) is used to register participants electronically at the start and finish en route every day. Each participant (including group participants and those in military contingents) must have his or her bar code scanned at the registration desk at the end of each day.

Start and finish area

Start and finish area the Wedren

All individual participants and civilian groups start from the Wedren/Julianaplein and will report to the finish there at the end of each marching day. Participants must report to their own registration desk to sign off. On Friday the sign-off for civilian groups is at sports park De Kluis, this is possible until 17.00 hrs. After signing off, everyone walks the Entry on the Via Gladiola to the Wedren.

Waiting at the start

When 42,000 participants have to start within in a timeframe of a couple hours it is not unlikely that participants will hinder each other. So, just like travelling with public transport or when in the supermarket, we would like to ask you to show some consideration for each other, and that you do not cut in line and that you wait your turn. Kindly address each other regarding inappropriate behaviour and try to arrange matters justly.

Wristband broken at the start?

If your wristband has broken down at night due to unforeseen circumstances, you must report to the starting team. You will receive a temporary replacement wristband. At the end of the walking day you must report to the Central Administration where you - after checking your data - receive a new wristband.

Starting and signing-off times

Distance	Start individual walkers	Start groups	Signing off
50km	04.00-04.45	04.30-04.45	12.00-17.00**
40km	05.15-06.00 of 06.15-07.00	05.00-05.15	12.00-17.00**
30km	07.30-08.00	07.00-07.15	12.00-17.00**
40km MIL	04.30-06.30*	04.30-06.30*	12.00-17.00

* On Friday this will be 03.30 – 05.30 hrs

** On Friday until 18.00 hrs. This time is only for individual civilian participants with start location Wedren.

The 40km walkers will start in two separate groups. The [start slot](#) depends on your walking number.

It is important that when you check in after each days walk, when your card is scanned that you listen for the ping. This will confirm that you have successfully finished.

Coach Details

For those of you travelling from Swindon, or being picked up enroute here is some very important information:

Outward Journey

Pick up: Swindon Town Football club, County Road, Swindon SN1 2ED
Date: Saturday 13th July 2013
Time: 8:30pm (20:30)
Other pick ups: Reading services, Clacketts Lane and Stop 24
Shuttle: 1:15am (01:15)
Arrival: 10:00am (10:00) at Sportshall De Dennen

Please try to be early as the coaches have a deadline to keep. Please also have your passport and EHIC card to show me before boarding the coach.

To ensure the price is kept low as possible and to take account of driver's hours, our departure is as stated for arrival at the sportshall. My apologies if this causes inconvenience to anyone.

Return Journey

Pick up venue: Sportshall De Dennen
Date: Saturday 20 July 2013
Time: 10:00am
Via: PJs chocolate factory
Shuttle: 5:50pm (17:50) French time
Drop off at Stop 24; Clacketts Lane, Reading services and Swindon
Arrival: 9:00pm (21:00)

There are two coaches. The students will travel on one and adults on the other. During the week, the coaches will run a shuttle service to and from the start each day. If you have not already made your travel plans and would like to travel via the coach, please contact us.

Baggage allowance

Although modern coaches have a lot of luggage space, please restrict yourselves to **one suitcase or bag**. Items in the suitcase will not be available to you during the journey. Another small bag should be used to carry any other items. It should be small enough to go under the seat or in the overhead luggage rack. Bags will not be allowed in the aisle. Please ensure that all bags are labelled. Bicycles will **NOT** be allowed onto the coach.

Food will not be provided until Monday morning at the De Dennen Sportshall, so bring sufficient food and drink or money to purchase *en route*.

12 hours on a coach can be boring so bring something to keep you amused (personal stereos, cards, games, magazines etc.). A pillow is also really useful in order to get some sleep.

Members Joining us in Nijmegen 2013

Omitted from the June edition of the Rambler

Membership Number	Member	Registered number	Walking number	Next award
269	Franklin Schalk	192516	40.U.308	13
735	Sanders Stoel			4
1005	Vaughn Baines	545050	50.K.266	1

Not staying in the sportshall

906	Steven Dalton Snr'			5
877	Steven Dalton Jnr			6
916	Christine Dalton			3
1004	Sarah Louise Dalton			1
1009	Glen Logan			

Support staff

Marian Van Essen Westerhoff - Translator

Your Letters

It is a very short edition of the Rambler this month, it was decided that with only a few days to go you may not be able to sit down and dedicate so much time to reading, I am also very busy making ID cards and putting together welcome packs I still need to find a suitcase and pack too, can anyone tell me where my t-shirts are?

We can assure you that the sportshall is waiting, the beds are ready and the food.... Mmm for those of you who came last year you will remember the new caterers we used, well they are returning again this year.

The final committee meeting is tonight which finalises any last minute things and then that's it, we will all be on our way!

We are looking forwards to seeing all the returning members and looking forward to welcoming all those coming with us for the first time!

See you soon!

Forthcoming Events 2013:

July 2013

Nijmegen!

August 2013

9th - Dodentocht

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.

Birthdays

British

- 1 Roy Walker; Sarah Turrell
- 2 Linda White; Gavin Lofts; Martin Reese;
Paul Grant
- 3 Peter Shaw; Matthew Morecroft
- 4 Cerri Love; Verity Dams; Daniel Barry
- 5 Declan Whicher; Victoria Thomas
- 6 Brian Gee
- 7 Lesley-anne Chapman
- 8 Robert Slight; Jackie Miles;
Edward Stevenette
- 10 Benjamin Fowler; Tom Grice
- 11 Anisa Malik-Mansell; Stephen Dalton
- 12 Ian Walton
- 13 Bill Burdett; Graham Oldham;
Alexandra Baker
- 14 Kimberley Mugford; Alex Thompson;
Callum Young; Drew Hawker
- 15 Anne Lewis; Joanne Smith
- 16 Emma Jayne-Nelson
- 17 Ben Hawthorn
- 20 Ted Blair
- 21 Ted Pinch; Mary-ann Burke;
Gill Hughes; Levi Sibthorpe
- 22 Raymond Batkin; Ad-
am Brockman-more
- 23 Caroline Simkin; Lewis Ginevra
- 24 Jill Pearson; Matthew Jewers;
Rebecca Birch
- 25 Kristina Luft; Joshua Veitch-Michaelis
- 26 Matthew Sutton; Jonathon Errington;
Liam Nayler
- 28 Alfred Short; Deborah Towson
- 29 Dexter David; Sue Lewis
- 30 Claire Andrews; Joshua Lewington
- 31 John Mosley

Nederlanders

- 1 Sylvia Waterdrinker-Eskes
- 4 Judit Wassing
- 8 Lucie Nelis-Dorlandt
- 10 Ben Jeursen
- 13 Jan Wigmans; Michiel Maarschalk
- 14 J Noordman
- 15 Jaap Van den Bos; Paul Mansveld
- 17 A Joosten-Bronkhurst
- 20 Marin Snijders
- 21 Sylvia Hammingh
- 22 Lenie Verweij-Visser; Ineke Verhagen;
P Swart
- 23 Magda van Doorn-schenk
- 25 Jacqueline Kronenberg
- 26 Nico Maarschalk
- 27 J Bakker
- 28 Hans Ludema
- 30 E Gelaudemans
- 31 M Hoof

*Many happy returns to
you all*

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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 27th July 2013**

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

Katie Elliman
Editor