



# The Rambler-February 2013

**HERE WE GO AGAIN...**



Time to start wearing those bright coloured t-shirts again!  
The lead up to Nijmegen has officially started.

**163 Days to wait!**  
**16-19 JULY 2013**  
**Registration for the 97th**  
**Vierdaagse opens Monday!**

**British Dutch  
Walking Fellowship**

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**2013**

## **Contents**

**Page 1**

☺ **Here we go again**

**Page 2**

☺ **Registration forms**

**Page 3**

☺ **BDWF T-shirts:  
Introduction of the  
'Cool T'**

**Page 4**

☺ **Weblog - Johan  
Willenstein**

**Page 5 - 6**

☺ **Other News**

**Page 7 - 8**

☺ **Your letters**

**Page 9**

☺ **Forthcoming  
Events**

**Page 10**

☺ **Birthdays**

**Page 11**

☺ **Editors details**

## Registration forms

Yes, I know this was the first page last month too, but I would like to remind you that it is now a good time to send back your forms.

Application forms for walkers are starting to arrive. If you were hoping to be on the support team this year places are almost full so you need to get them back as soon as possible.

As for those walking you may wonder why we ask for them in so soon. The answer is simple. Registration for the 97th Vierdaagse starts on Monday the 4th of February - **yes, this coming Monday!**

I can hear you saying that it doesn't close for a while so there is no rush. We do this as a matter of urgency. The sooner we register our people the better and we can iron out any problems that may arise thereafter. We also know in advance who will be staying with us in the sportshall so we can order the beds and secure the catering. As you can appreciate does take time to organise. There is a saying, forearmed is forewarned. When 50 people leave it until the last day to get their forms back and there is only one person registering all these people it can get a bit flustering!

So, simply put, it is a big help to those of us doing the paperwork and we do value your custom.

### **Some useful information taken from the 4daagse website regarding registration:**

The registration for individual participants, which begins on 4 February and ends on 5 April, is divided into two registration periods. The first registration period is from Monday 4 February until Friday 1 March 2013. In this period, everyone that has successfully completed the 96th Four Days Marches can register, as well as people born in the calendar year 2001.

The second registration period starts Monday 4 March and ends Friday 5 April 2013. Anyone that wants to participate in the Four Days Marches can register in this period. If, when the second registration period closes, the registration limit of 46,000 participants has been exceeded, there will be a draw by lot among those registered for reward 1.

Those walking in a team are guaranteed a place to walk in Nijmegen and will avoid the lottery. If you would like to be in a team, please contact Herman Boston  
Group Treasurer: [treasurer@bdwf.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bdwf.org.uk)

## BDWF T-shirts: Introduction of the 'Cool T'

Several members have asked us to see if we could introduce an additional variant of T-shirt to help in overcoming overheating when walking in Nijmegen, similar to the 'New Balance' material used for their 2012 Nijmegen promotional T-shirt.

The 'Cool T' made by AWD ('All We Do') is the T-shirt that we will be making available to order in our standard three colours denoting 'Walker' (Electric Orange), 'Support i.e. Crew' (Fire Red) and 'First Aid' (Kelly Green). The T-shirts themselves have printed logos inside the neck rather than stitched-in labels. Sizes available in these colours are Small, Medium, Large, XL and XXL only.

Breathable wicking fabric is the material used. Wicking fabrics are modern technical fabrics which draw moisture away from the body. They are made of high-tech polyester, which, unlike cotton, absorbs very little water. Cotton will absorb 7% of its weight in water, polyester only 0.4%. Cotton will therefore hang onto your sweat, making your garment heavy and unpleasantly clammy. Wicking polyester has a special cross-section and a large surface area, which picks up moisture and carries it away from your body, spreading it out, to evaporate easily on the outside of the fabric. So you stay cool and dry.

As you would imagine and can easily see on the internet, there is a premium to be paid for this material but we are pleased to be in a position to make them available for collection in Nijmegen 2013 at a cost of £7.00 each which includes the BDWF printing to the breast pocket area and both sleeves. It will also be possible to mail them out to members but this will also necessitate payment for Post & Packaging (to be identified).

Our orders go in at the beginning of June with delivery completion to us within typically 2 weeks if not earlier, so you have until 31<sup>st</sup> May inclusive to get your orders in.

This information was not to hand when the initial BDWF Clothing forms were mailed out so an updated form to include this variant will be redistributed to all members following publication of this the February 2013 Rambler.

So, if you want to order any of these 'Cool T' T-shirts or indeed any of our standard range of T-shirts, Polo shirts or hoodies then completed forms need to be sent to:

By E-mail – to [treasurer@bdwf.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bdwf.org.uk) identifying colour, size and quantity with bank transfer payment to **HSBC**, sort code **40-43-35**, account name: **British-Dutch Walking Fellowship**, account number: **01530682**.

Please don't forget to identify who the payment is from.

By Post – to John Nicholson 18 Poplar Close, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1TL identifying colour, size and quantity with a cheque made out to 'BDWF' for the appropriate amount.

Roy Hayward  
Walker Liaison  
E-mail: [roy.d.hayward@btinternet.com](mailto:roy.d.hayward@btinternet.com)

## Weblog - Johan Willemstein

Friday, 4 January 2013

2013! Happy New Year! I wish you prosperity and health! And – where possible – a lot of fun walking! Let's all look forward to the 97th Four Days Marches!

These first two weeks of January always feature a great many New Year's receptions, and I have receptions in my diary in Elst, Heumen, Beuningen and Arnhem, and at the Province of Gelderland to name but a few. They are great opportunities to maintain contact with my network, but I probably won't manage to attend all of them.

Speaking of my diary, it is already rather full. A discussion with our main sponsor New Balance, various meetings with the board of the Four Days Marches, our PR commission and the board of the Four Days Festivities are lined up for January. An initial presentation of the anniversary committee's plans for the 100th edition in 2016 is also in the pipeline, and I will be meeting with Omroep Gelderland, the Mayor of Gennep, the heads of departments of our volunteer organisation and the military delegation leaders (Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Great Britain and Canada). I know that my fellow board members also have very full diaries, featuring discussions with the Ministry of Defence on what form their support will take, with representatives of civil groups on the 2013 regulations, with the accountant on the annual reports, with the security consultation groups from Nijmegen and the surrounding municipalities, etc.

The budget has now been finalised and the registration fee for the 97th Four Days Marches has been set at € 50 (€ 48 in 2012). As our board member responsible for financial affairs (Ab Schreurs) said, "this is still under the cost price," which is true. He also said: "We don't need to make a profit!" Our loyal sponsors cover the rest of the cost price.

Registration will open at midnight at the start of Monday 4 February 2013. I have the same message as last year for all others wishing to take part in the Four Days Marches: don't stay up for it. It doesn't make a jot of difference whether you are the first or last to register!

<http://www.4daagse.nl/en/news/weblog-march-leader.html>

## Other News

Has anyone heard of the British Walking Federation? I am guessing many of you have, though it is new to me. However, look at who appears on the homepage of the website! Not even a tiny picture it is the main picture!



### **Welcome to the British Walking Federation Website**

This picture is on the British Walking Federation website. It features Dave Sutton and Anne Welburn Sutton

## Other News (continued)

### Locking Pin Keepers - Update 2.

We are pleased to advise that our first supply of Pin Keepers has completely sold out. In addition, packs have already been reserved from our second order yet to be delivered. However, if you missed the article or are still interested it is once again repeated here.

Concerned about losing your numeral pin attached to your Nijmegen medal or other commemorative pins for that matter? Here's an excellent solution suggested by one of our members:



Each pin keeper simply replaces the push-on clips that come with your hard-earned numeral and is secured using the allen key. You need one pin keeper for numerals 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 and then two pin keepers for numerals 12 onwards.

Check out the prices on e-Bay and you'll see that basic quantities cost of the order of £4-£6 for a pack of 10 or 12. Please note that the picture shows packs of 10 – our unlabelled packs do contain 12. We've secured larger quantities of these keepers and will pass them on for £3.00 for a pack of 12. Any profit made going into club funds.

So why not buy a pack for yourself or share 12 with walking colleagues.

We'll have them available in Nijmegen, or earlier if requested but that will need minimal postage and packaging costs (60p) to be added.

Please let me know if you're interested in reserving/buying any of these so that I can reorder if the quantities needed exceed our next holding.

Roy Hayward  
Walker Liaison  
E-mail: [roy.d.hayward@btinternet.com](mailto:roy.d.hayward@btinternet.com)

## Your Letters

This month I have had a couple of letters from you. I do like hearing from you. These arrived by post, it makes a lovely change when things other than bills get poked through the door!

### Wake-Up - Camp Heumensoord

Ever wondered what it's like at the military camp at Heumensoord, the gentle sound of the wake-up call and seeing the entrance/exit?

Well we've had a taster from one of our members who is walking with the military - George Buxton.

Breakfast is from 03:00 to 05:00hrs with a wake up call at 03:00hrs each morning, not that they were still in bed at that time, they only heard the wake up call either on their way to or in the mess tent each morning. In case you want to hear the wake-up call it's on U-tube the link is :- **Wake-Up - Camp Heumensoord.wmv**

Now would such a call go down well in the sports hall?

Thanks George but I think we'll pass on this offer.

Roy Hayward

Walker Liaison.

## Your letters

Do you remember in the December edition of The Rambler we heard from Howard and how he got involved in the Nijmegen Vierdaagse? Well, Ken has got in touch to tell us how he too found out about the walk... it seems there is a familiar name mentioned in both stories...

### First Encounters with Trevor Day...Continued

Unlike Howard I was not sought out by Trevor, rather it was me who went to him.

It was 1995 and I was in Nijmegen as part of a TA Medics Marching Team. We had stopped in Cuijk on the last day prior to the long march into the finish. The early afternoon was very hot and we were sheltering in the shade of an army 4Tonner.

We were surrounded by other Military teams when I suddenly noticed a group of Indians wearing BT t-shirts standing in a huddle nearby, very conspicuous amongst the military personnel.

This was very intriguing, I had been with BT for over 30 years and was totally unaware of their involvement in Nijmegen. I spoke to one of the group (Rolly), who pointed out the team leader.

I introduced myself to Trevor, and he took my details. It all seemed low profile and Hush-hush.

Looking back, even in those days Trevor did have a ministerial look about him!

Anyway, the following year I received the forms and I've been with the BDWF ever since!

Ken Redman

Who else would like to share how they got involved with the BDWF? I am looking forward to hearing your stories.

## Forthcoming Events 2012:

April 2013

**27th - 28th 32nd RAF 2 Day March** For more information please visit the website [www.rafwarma.org.uk](http://www.rafwarma.org.uk) and click on RAF two day march.

May 2013

**5th Sarsen trail.** For more information take a look at <http://www.wiltshirewildlife.org>

**26 - 27th RAF Lyneham 2 day March.** For more details contact Herman Boston Tel: 07936 390500 or Email: [hermies@btinternet.com](mailto:hermies@btinternet.com)

June 2013

**2nd - Hawkdean Hike** For more information see <http://www.hawkdean.co.uk/>

August

**9th - 44th 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.

Don't forget there are a series of training walks in and around Swindon between January and September organised by Herman, get in touch if you would like more information about them.

# Birthdays

## British

- 3 Brian Green; Cathie Burridge  
Benjamin Biggs; Shaun Perry
- 4 Peter Gardner; Loren Fuller
- 5 Ian Shearer; Rachel Shirreffs;  
Naomi Barton
- 6 Charlotte Rhodes; James Ferguson
- 7 Marc Best; Zak Westell
- 8 Emma Armitage; James Reynolds
- 9 Gareth Miles; Tom Ashdown;  
Riannah & Danielle Gayle
- 10 Nigel Goodman
- 11 George Buxton; Stephen Wood;  
Richard Courtney; Gabriella Rolfe
- 12 Tina & Teresa Blanpain; Emily Collins  
George Langlands
- 13 Sean Phillips; Daniel Maggs
- 14 Daniel Foxwell
- 16 Pascal Munster; Matthew Cordas
- 17 John Robertson; Stefan Webster
- 18 Jean Robinson
- 20 Charles Shaw
- 21 Daniel Westlake; Tanya Newell
- 22 Robert Newton
- 23 Genevieve Williams; Toby Humphries
- 26 George Beecham; Colin Jarvis;  
Janice Wainwright; Marie Dimaline;  
Thomas Newbery
- 27 Moira Veitch
- 28 Chris Bexhill; Kristina King  
Andrew Sprules

## Nederlanders

- 1 Lydia Boonen
- 2 Jozien Vercouteren
- 6 Wim Magnin
- 7 Ineke Mulder-Parmentier
- 9 Ria van Nunen-Meijs
- 10 Astrid Rooijen-jansen
- 11 Theo de Bruijn
- 16 Robert Vlietstra
- 17 Niek Rouschop
- 20 Jan Eggink
- 21 Henk Mounoury
- 25 Kim Lentjes
- 26 Coby Van Noord

*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 22nd February 2013**

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

**Katie Elliman**  
**Editor**

**Don't forget to complete your application forms!**