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# The Rambler - November 2012

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**British Dutch  
Walking Fellowship**

Volume 71, Issue 1

**Newsletter Date  
Friday 2 November  
2012**

# WE ARE HAVING A BALL...

**AND YOU CAN COME TOO!**

**255 Days to wait!  
16-19 JULY 2013**

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## Welcome!

I said last month that we have some new additions to the committee and some move around in roles... now everyone has settled in they would like to say hello properly!

In this edition we have a Hello from Roy Hayward and Herman Boston. Yes, they are two very familiar names but both have new roles on the committee.

## Committee Post: Walker Liaison

Further to the information included in the 'Précis of Committee Meeting Minutes' for September 2012, it seemed appropriate to expand on the responsibilities of this newly-created committee post.

The main responsibility is to provide an alternative point of contact for current BDWF members to raise walking-related issues, anonymously if requested, so that member issues can in turn be raised on your behalf at committee meetings or more urgently if needed. This should not prevent members from going direct to other committee members directly responsible for the area of query but provides another avenue of approach and possibly a 'chasing' mechanism.

The committee post is also responsible for collating and analysing our Nijmegen Event Feedback forms and reporting back to both the committee and members as a summary of feedback for each event - something I'm very familiar with.

These Feedback Form issues, currently from 2012, will provide the initial main action points for the focus of the post. I'm pleased to say that two refund issues passed to me during the 2012 event have already been cleared up.

An annual written report will also be completed prior to our Nijmegen Annual General Meeting to be available for inspection by the membership during Nijmegen week.

Having stood down as Chairman at Nijmegen 2012, I have accepted being co-opted into the post until it formally comes up for election in 2015 when I will stand down. However, if any other current member would be interested in undertaking this role, in a co-opted capacity, please advise the Chairman/Group Secretary who will give the application due consideration.

All details of posts and election timescales, to ensure continuity of expertise, were cascaded to the membership in our 'Précis of Committee Meeting Minutes' of Friday 3rd September, 2012.

In the meantime I look forward to raising and hopefully resolving the issues so far fed back.

Roy Hayward.

## Welcome - Continued

### Committee Post: Group Secretary

Since the inception of British-Dutch Walking Fellowship (BDWF) in 2004, when the first committee was put together with Trevor Day as Chair, Doug Davidson as Secretary, Linda White as First Aid Coordinator and Bob Gutteridge as events coordinator, I have been your Treasurer. Eight years on I decided it was time for a change and when Katie relinquished the post of Secretary I jumped into the hot seat.

John Nicholson has stepped up as Group Treasurer and I know he will do a sterling job for the club and its members.

With a new committee comes a lot of change. There is greater focus on membership and ensuring we meet your needs the best way we can.

There are numerous documents and forms that have to be updated especially the Constitution and rules (C&Rs). As Secretary it is my job to ensure the work is done. Coordinating this work is taking time but we will get there.

Membership and Applications forms for next years Nijmegen will be with you shortly and I am looking forward to meeting up with many of you on the training walks in Swindon and in Nijmegen, my second home.

Kind regards

Herman Boston

## Unwanted T-shirts

In 2012 we took the decision to no longer supply free of charge T shirts to newcomers as this was an expense to the club. This meant members had to purchase BDWF T shirts if they required them. There is now a need for past members to look at their BDWF T shirts they no longer require or need and return them to us to kit out newcomers so that we can identify / recognise them at rest stops.

If you would like to return your unwanted shirts please contact Herman 07936 390500

## Flights!

For those of you who like to be organised, and also like to save a penny or two we have heard that Roy has booked his flight for 2013 already and saved £50+ on what he spent last year. He booked his flights through KLM... possibly worth looking at if you like to be prepared!

# BDWF Gala Ball



The BDWF committee  
request the honour of your presence at the  
**Inaugural Ball**



Friday 17th May 2013

7:00pm Pre-dinner drinks  
7:30pm Dinner and Dancing until late

Holiday Inn, Coate Water, Swindon SN3 6AQ



Set 3 course Meal: choice of  
Chicken,  
Beef,  
and Lamb

Black tie / lounge suits

Cost: £35.00 per person

Accommodation to include full English Breakfast based on 2 people sharing is  
£50 per night or £90 for 2 nights



RSVP: to Herman to confirm your place (£10.00 required with your booking)  
Must have bookings by end of November to secure the venue.



## Sponsor Us!

I promised in my Annual Report that as well as undertaking my First Aid role, I would continue to focus on fund raising efforts. Of course this was made much more critical following the loss of much of our first aid equipment.

In a moment of complete madness, and with the promise of participation from other members of your support staff, I decided to organise a 24 hour continuous 200km Sponsored Walk, yes that's the Nijmegen Vierdaagse in one day. We will be walking on a treadmill, possibly on a gravity strider, and road walking in and around Frome.

The event is taking place from 12:00 on Saturday 17th November until 12:00 on Sunday 18th November and you can follow the action, share our suffering and have a good laugh at our expense by following our website blog. If anyone would like to come along and cheer, heckle or spectate they are very welcome. Hopefully we will also have a live stream available, but the technical details for that one are still being worked upon so do keep an eye on our website for updates. Rest assured we will also share pictures of any blisters and their treatment so you can feel you have finally got your revenge upon the first aid team.

By partnering with Wiltshire Council's Local Giving scheme we can double up on all donations made up to the first £10 of each one. So please, please support us by donating at: <https://localgiving.com/donation/bdwf> and spread the word to your friends and colleagues.

Help us to continue supporting you, to replace what was stolen, and to enable us to improve upon the products and services we can offer. What are you waiting for? Donate now.

Thank you

Gina Coltman

As Gina mentions we will keep you updated with how the walk goes through the website. We will shortly be unveiling who will be taking part!

## Locking Pin Keeper

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 (for those not receiving their 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th or 25th full medal) 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 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 may need minimal postage and packaging costs 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 current holding.

Roy Hayward

Walker Liaison

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

## Spooky Spotted Cow!

The Spotted Cow had a Halloween makeover and was looking suitably spooky as nearly 30 members of the BDWF gathered on quite a wild and stormy night.

Little spiders skittered around the table tops, and several people took them home as souvenirs. Goody bags were presented to each person on arrival. The goody bags contained a mixture of sweets, sherbet bottles and/or a little toy or gift, as well as an exclusive limited edition BDWF badge. Well we did promise some surprises along the way! Each bag had a number on it which entitled the recipient to either a trick or treat with the corresponding number. Some of the "trick" items proved popular though. The "trick" bottle of Coke that went out of date in 2006 was drunk by the intrepid Ollie Thorne. He reported that it was very flat! The most appropriate "treat" went to Laura Chapman who recently returned from Disneyland Paris. She took home a Mickey Mouse keyring! Most creative use of a prize goes to Zoe Chapman who won a lovely pair of black lacy knickers, and we have the photos to prove it.

The raffle also had a trick or treat theme, with Jack Pike and Ollie Thorne selecting two numbers at random, a post-it note with either "Trick" or "Treat" was stuck on the bottom of the chair that corresponded with their pick - 8 and 23. Sandra Thompson won the lovely bottle of Glenfiddich Whisky and poor Peter James took the booby prize again; a spider which when watered grows grass. He's promised us pictures when it's grown.

Frank (Coltman) captured some photos of the spooky goings on, and hopefully a good time was had by all.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us. We raised £77 on the night, we have £3 outstanding and by paying the money in via Localgiving: <https://localgiving.com/charity/bdwf/project/spooky-spotty-cow-gathering> we can double up each £3 to £6 and then double that money again thanks to two sets of matching government funding.

Thank you to everyone who came and we look forward to seeing more of you at the next event!



# Forthcoming Events 2013:

## January 2013

**28 - 29th - Stonehenge Stomp.** For more information visit the Amesbury walkers Web site <http://www.btinternet.com/~amesburywalkers/page6.html> They also have a variety of other walks listed which are definitely worth a look.

## April 2013

**27th - 28th 32nd 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 2013

**25 - 26th RAF Lyneham 2 day March.** For more details contact Herman Boston Tel: 07936 390500 or Email: [hermies@btinternet.com](mailto:hermies@btinternet.com)

Wow - have you noticed our walks are now looking into 2013! It will be time to go to Nijmegen again before you know it!

There is also an excellent website detailing walks available in the Netherlands - <http://www.wandelkalender.nl/2012/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 Ron Richardson; Charlotte Williams
- 2 Tim Edwards; Colin Shelcott
- 3 Debra Bodman; Paula Bull
- 4 Daniel Markowicz; Joshua Harvey
- 5 John Sissons
- 6 Spike Elliott
- 7 Paul Shearman; Caleb Nankivell
- 8 Stuart Hook
- 9 Dave Newson
- 11 Phoebe Guthrie
- 12 Bernice Thorley; Stephen Marshall;  
Thomas Webber
- 14 Jean Bobker
- 15 Kim Whitbread
- 16 Nigel Robinson
- 17 Craig Appleby
- 18 Nigel Lacey; Rebecca Nash
- 19 Anthony Chandler; Aidan Glennie
- 20 Kevin Poultney; Owain Ford;  
Zoe Anderson; Paul Grosvenor
- 22 Matthew Burton
- 23 Chloe Dutton; Leah Davidson
- 24 Gordon Pacey
- 25 Brenda Layne
- 26 Natalie Shurmer; Alison Sinclair
- 27 Joseph Charles; Jotham Townsend
- 29 Len Sargeant; Michael Slater;  
Marianne Le-Coyte

## Nederlanders

- 1 Sabine Hendriks
- 4 Henny Visser; Judith Boets
- 6 Theo Partouns
- 8 Frank Nieuwenhof; Angelique Nieuwenhof
- 9 Wiebe Van der Hoogt
- 11 Sjoerd Oosting
- 19 M Erhump
- 22 Jopie Elfrink
- 23 Jordy Wals
- 26 M van der Wetering
- 29 L Hartgers

*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 30th November, 2012**

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

**Katie Elliman**  
**Editor**

### **A little Housekeeping:**

You are receiving this mail because I want to ensure you are receiving all information and monthly Rambler from the British-Dutch Walking Fellowship (BDWF). If you have received this email and wish to remain on our mailing list please send a reply to this mail asking to remain on the mailing list by the end of November.

**Please respond to Herman.**