



# The Rambler-March 2011

Registration so far: 29,125

There is still time to register for the 95th Vierdaagse. Please get your completed forms to Herman as soon as possible.

**Diary Entry:** The 95th International 4 Day Marches will take place from 19 July to 22 July 2011 .

**136**

Days until Nijmegen  
2011

As of publication date

**British Dutch  
Walking Fellowship**

Volume 51, Issue 1

Newsletter Date

Friday 4 March 2011

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## **BDWF Constitution & Rules (C&R's) Issue 7.**

As indicated in the most recent précis of committee minutes, we are pleased to advise our membership that the latest update to our C&R's was also uploaded onto our web site last month. Again, there are several important changes this year (see 'Change Control' in the C&R's) the most significant of which were raised and agreed for inclusion at our AGM in Nijmegen last year and have already been cascaded to our membership in either the précis of our committee meeting minutes or in the Rambler newsletters.

An interesting 'oversight' on our part concerned new members applying to join the BDWF and in turn take part in the 4 Day Marches. These applicants had typically heard of the BDWF and researched the web site or been given a copy of the 'Nijmegen Flyer' leaflet. On reading the C&R's and the Membership Application form we know that potential members had been put off because there was a requirement to be nominated by a current member – they didn't know any!! Fortunately one applicant wouldn't be deterred and contacted Herman Boston directly – he is now a member.

Following discussion regarding the safety of students in our care, we have agreed that the 'supported' requirement from both the C&R's and the membership application form can be removed.

We accept that there is a need in a club such as ours to ensure that students are kept safe and having supported applications did go some way to achieving that but even then did not necessarily meet that requirement. Similarly in an ideal world all adult members of a club where students are present should be CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checked – your committee are. However this is not practical and as a committee we have agreed to more closely monitor the applications on a regular basis.

# BDWF Nijmegen 2011 Handbook

The more eagle-eyed of you will already have noted that our Nijmegen 2011 Handbook was uploaded onto our web site last month. Not all of the detailed information that we had hoped for from the 4 Days Organisation is yet to hand, for example our Handbook has had to allow for either bar-coded wristbands or plastic cards for walker identification purposes during the 4 Days itself.

There are several important changes this year (see 'Issue Control' in the Handbook) the most significant of which have already been cascaded to our membership in either the précis of our committee meeting minutes or in the Rambler newsletters. Further updates, when and if available, will be included in future Ramblers – failing that at Nijmegen itself.

The requested abridged version covering the walk itself will appear on our web site later this month. Please remember that if you want to print off copies of the Handbook in A5 format, simply output at 2 sheets per page using A4 paper.

# Weblog of Johan Willemstein

Wednesday, 2 February 2011

Registration is open once again and the first 12,000 walkers have already signed up. The first registrations were sent promptly at midnight at the beginning of 31 January. It seems that a lot of people sit at the computer waiting for the clock to strike midnight, but this really isn't necessary. After all, it doesn't make a jot of difference whether you are the first or last to register. There is no need to hurry in either the first or second registration period. Everyone who has previously completed the Four Days Marches in accordance with the regulations is guaranteed a starting ticket. A draw will only be held amongst those who register for reward 1 in the second registration period (with the exception of those born in 1999 and those excluded by the draw in both 2009 and 2010).

So why register in the middle of the night, fighting to stay awake, just to be one of the first to sign up? The only possible explanation is that people still don't understand the registration system, or don't want to understand it, even though the system has been the same for years. Or could it simply be a fever? That fantastic feeling that the Four Days Marches are drawing nearer once again and that the first preparatory steps can be taken? Those butterflies in the stomach that drive you to take the first steps as soon as possible, even if that means doing it in the middle of the night? In other words - pure enthusiasm, commitment and experience? I'm inclined to say that everyone has gradually come to understand how registration works and that it really is simply a matter of enthusiasm, commitment and experience. Because I see the same thing happening within our organisation. Here too, various members of staff sit at their computers in the middle of the night. Of course, this is to check everything runs smoothly, but certainly also to enjoy those very first moments - sometimes together and sometimes in splendid isolation.

Whatever the case may be, things are under way. Walkers can start training again and the organisation can make haste with the necessary preparations. Walkers and the organisation marching hand in hand to the climax that is the third week of July.

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

# Puzzle Time

Have fun!

W H A T I S B K O A L A B E A R L  
A C K A N D W S R E T S O O R S H  
I T H E A S N D H R E D A H L N L  
O V A E R T A Z E I B R I A N I C  
E N T K V A B V P X P N F B G U R  
L K E A G B L W D A O P K T M G T  
E G E N Y L Q S T C N K O F I N O  
P R H G L T K L E T Q D G R X E L  
H I C A I M L R X L B P A T P P E  
A Z R R O P O Y T F T F Y B F K C  
N Z X O N U Q T F Y F R G P E T O  
T L Q O S T K C D E E R U B W A N  
S Y L R B L A C K B E A R T T K R  
E B J A Z M P O L A R B E A R F Q  
A E W M M D G N P E A C O C K V F  
L A N R G A L L Z N L E O P A R D  
S R Z F L O W S E O G N I M A L F

Bats

Peacock

Kangaroo

Cheetah

polar bear

Leopard

Elephant

Roosters

Llama

Giraffe

Turtles

panda bear

Hippo

black bear

Penguins

koala bear

deer

rhinoceros

lion

flamingos

seals

ocelot

grizzly bear

wolf

# Forthcoming Events

## Events for 2011

### April 2011

**16th - 17th 30<sup>th</sup> RAF 2 Day March** This is the 30th year for the RAF 2 Day March, walkers must pre-register/enter by the deadline stated – however they can pay on arrival. For more information please visit their website [www.rafwarma.org.uk](http://www.rafwarma.org.uk) and click on RAF two day march.

### May 2011

**28th - 30th** 3 day RAF Lyneham Walk. Contact Herman Boston for more details.

Also in May:

Blankenberge two day walk in Belgium. This is a flat area and good training for Nijmegen with a choice of distance. Maximum of 42Kms per day. Link below. Date early May.

<http://www.2daagse.be/en/42nd-two-day-walk>

### July 2011

**10th - 16th** 39th Haervejsvandring, Denmark ([www.fodslaw.dk](http://www.fodslaw.dk))

**19th - 22nd** 95th International 4 Day Marches, Nijmegen

### August 2011

**12th** 52nd Dodentocht

If you know of other walks that our members would be interested in, please drop me a note or give me a call. My details are at the back of this newsletter.

There is also a wonderful website detailing walks available in the Netherlands - <http://www.wandelkalender.nl/2011/meerdaagse.html>

# Birthdays

## British

- 1 Callum Weaver; Coralie Hancock; Sophie Kudelka
- 2 Carol Simmons
- 3 Sheryl Lea
- 4 Jacquie Rawlings; Colin Petit
- 5 Gemma Gillies; George Paul; Christine Barre
- 6 Christine Brooks
- 7 Steven Vass; Katerina Mabbott; Richard Dean
- 8 Robert Parkinson
- 10 Emma Clarkson
- 11 Simon Cox
- 13 Sarah Coupland
- 14 George Newby
- 16 Paul Kirby
- 17 Nick Neale; Ann Williams
- 18 Gareth Ball
- 21 Chris Buridge; Pat O'Connor; Christopher Johnson
- 24 Pavandeep Bains
- 25 Jim Usher; Adam Merrison
- 26 David Broughton; Mike Dean
- 27 Jan Roberts
- 28 Briohny Williams; Gavin Brown; Bridget Sinclair
- 29 Stephen Morgan
- 30 Joy Wade; Michael McDonald

## Nederlanders

- 3 Sebastian van der Staal
- 4 Anneleen Bolle
- 5 Willem Woters
- 8 H Gol; J Joosten; Marijke Zuidwijke
- 11 Anneke Duijn; Klaske Ludema-Korporaal
- 13 Ries Hauer; N van der Wijdeven
- 14 Corrie Ruberg
- 15 Jasmijn Govaars; Chris van Heckeren-Meiberg
- 17 Tom Stobbe
- 20 Jantien Manintveld
- 21 Henri Scheepens
- 22 Marcel Hendriks
- 24 Leni de Vries
- 25 Raymond Barbier; Ar-  
ienne de vos Lauerman
- 27 H de Vries
- 28 Jacolien Plomp

*Many happy returns to you all*

## British Dutch Walking Fellowship

Mobile: 07763026369  
E-mail:  
info@nijmegengroup.org



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 25th March 2011**.

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

**Katie Elliman**  
**Group Secretary**