

28th London to Brighton Walk 12th Sep 1953

Surrey Walking Club had the great satisfaction of seeing one of their members win their own premier promotion of the year, and a sight not witnessed for a span of thirty years. Wilf Cowley went in front fairly early in the race and stayed there to the finish. With seven or eight miles to go he lost a little ground to Norman Guilmant (Belgrave) and Hughie Neilson (Woodford), but won it back again before the finish. The result can clearly be called an unexpected one although on certain, occasions, notably the Vidarians 25 miles of three years back and the "Godstone " Cowley, has walked really fine races. On a very good day for walking, times were fast all round and fifteen men finished within 30 minutes of the first man home, something which must be exceptional.

Polytechnic surprisingly lost the team race. Even with a couple of good men left out of their "A" team they were well ahead when A. Sharp retired near home, but then Percy Heading met disqualification and that finished them. And so Woodford Green won with Belgrave second.

The "Harry Preston" Veterans' Cup was won for the first time by H. W. Shephard of Poly H., who beat A. D. McSweeney. striving for his fourth success, and Shephard's time was second only to that of Harold Whitlock, a very outstanding performance indeed. McSweeney had the consolation, however, of completing the event for the 21st consecutive time and in his fastest ever over the course, beating his previous best by two minutes or so. For this dual achievement 'he received a special presentation from his Club members at the prizegiving.

Results:

Position	Initial	Initial	Surname	Club	Hour	Min	Sec
1	W.	T.	Cowley	Surrey W.C. A	8	20	38
2	M.	N.	Guilmant	Belgrave H. A	8	24	20
3	H.	D.	Neilson	Woodford Gr. A.C.	8	25	33
4	V.	W.	Stone	Poly H. A	8	30	25
5	F.	G.	Bailey	Poly H. A	8	33	0
6	J.	O	Culver	Essex Beagles	8	33	31
7	T.	B.	Kent	Woodford Green A.C.	8	35	50
8	H.		McGreechan	Belgrave H. A	8	38	54
9	H.	W.	Shields	Belgrave H. A	8	39	9
10	L.	S.	Fairman	Poly H. B	8	39	51
11	P.	A.	Price	Poly H. A	8	42	26
12	T.	W.	Richardson	Wood. Gr. A.C.	8	43	30
13	H.	W.	Shephard	Poly H. B	8	46	5
14	C.		Megnin	Highgate H	8	48	53
15	A.	D.	McSweeney	Highgate H.	8	49	21
16	W.	P.	Everard	Essex Beagles	8	51	4
17	J.	F.	Holding	Woodford Gr. A.C.	8	53	43
18	W.	S.	Wardmnn	Poly H. B	8	56	13
19	T.	L.	Challen	Surrey W.C. A	8	57	12
20	C.	D.	Turbayne	Poly H. B	8	57	55
21	C.	H.	Groom	Walton A.C.	9	0	11
22	J.	H.	Comber	Essex Beagles	9	9	15
23	G.	A.	White	Essex Beagles	9	10	40
24	J.		Hartley	Sheffield U.H	9	17	0
25	R.	C.	Pantling	London Vidarians	9	18	30
26	A.	J.	Wakeley	Belgrave H. A	9	21	42

27	G.	H.	West	Highgate H	9	23	50
28	W.	A.	Wesson	Ldn. Tr. (C.R.S.)	9	24	58
29	P.		Wilson	Belgrave H. A	9	25	7
30	A.	D.	Galloway	Surrey W.C. A"	9	25	21
31	S.		McSweeney	Highgate H.	9	29	19
32	L.	E.	Thomas	Woodford Gr. A.C.	9	32	2
33	J.		Wilson	Belgrave H. A	9	32	40
34	J.	C.	Coomber	Highgate PI.	9	33	9
35	B.		Eglinton	Belgrave H. A	9	34	7
36	W.		Wingate	Brighton A.C.	9	35	0
37	R.	J.	Turner	Walton A.C.	9	38	45
38	R.	G	Harrold	Trowbridge A.C.	9	39	27
39	S.	E.	Horton	Surrey W.C. A	9	41	58
40	R.		Davison	Walton A.C	9	43	13
41	R.	A.	Haynes	St. Albans A.C.	9	43	27
42	K.	W.	Best	Surrey W.C. A	9	43	30
43	F.	J.	Plumb	Brighton A.C.	9	44	1
44	J.		Hill	E. Sussex Police	9	44	15
45	C.	W.	Kefford	Walton A.C.	9	45	19
46	C.	E.	Phillips	Trowbridge A.C.	9	45	44
47	W.	C.	Merrett	Poly H. A	9	46	17
48	G.	R.	Berry	Essex Beagles	9	48	52
49	T.	L.	Dally	Lancashire W.C.	9	50	43
50	D	E.	Webb	Ldn. Tr. (C.R.S.)	9	50	55
51	J.	H.	Steggel	Essex Beagles	9	51	3
52	H.	A.	Snook	Eastleigh A.C.	9	52	44
53	J.	M.	Price	Birmingham W.C.	9	53	31
54	G.	S.	Doubleday	Belgrave H.	9	56	1
55	J.	A.	Leavold	St. Albans A.	9	58	8
56	L.	T.	Williams	Birmingham W.C.	9	59	57
57	J.	H.	Jansen	Essex Beagles	9	59	59
58	H.	W.	Stallard	Dover A.C.	10	2	11
59	M.	V.	Dillon	Surrey A.C.	10	3	17
60	C.		Hayes	Trowbridge A.C.	10	5	38
61	W.	T.	Morris	Queens Park H.	10	6	16
62	S.	G.	Spencer	Belgrave H.	10	11	35
63	A.	W.	Marler	Enfield A.C.	10	13	33
64	W.	T.	Coleman	Cambridge H.	10	14	48
65	P.		Collins	Surrey A.C	10	15	59
66	A.	W.	King	Surrey A.C.	10	17	50
67	W.		Garratt	Surrey A.C.	10	17	50
68	C.	V.	Burks	Loughton A.C.	10	18	5
69	S.		Shirley	Poly H. A	10	21	18
70	J.		Prior	Veterans A.C	10	21	31
71	A.		Stevenson	Surrey A.C.	10	26	10

72	C.	V.	Gittins	Queens Park H.	10	26	57
73	H.	A.	Callow	Trowbridge A.C.	10	28	45
74	E	W.	Waite	Wibsey Park H.	10	29	52
75	S.		Clarke	E. Sussex Police	10	31	26
76	J.	C.	May	Walton A.C	10	38	25
77	T.	A.	Magog	Highgate H.	10	40	10
78	C.	J.	Young	Walton A.C.	10	41	30
79	L.	M.	Riddle	E. Sussex Police	10	41	30
80	D	G.	Shingles	Southern A.C.	10	45	13
81	R.	J.	Board	Highgate H	10	48	15
82	G.	B.	Ramsey.	London Vidarians	10	50	55
83	W.	G.	Hood	Eastleigh A.C.	10	56	2
84	T.	F.	Sheppard	Surrey W.C. A	11	2	55
85	M.	B.	Welfare	E. Sussex Police	11	14	16
86	W.	J.	Stanley	Lndn. Tr. (C.R.S.)	11	14	59
87	J.	P.	Fleming	Roath Youth A.C.	11	26	5
88	J.	K.	Hadley	Metropolitan W.C.	11	43	82
89	L.	B.	Scott	Surrey W.C.	11	57	4
90	J.	S.	Hardy	Met. Police Eng.	12	3	16

Team	Position	Club	Points
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1		Woodford Green A.C.	39
2		Belgrave H. "A"	44
3		Polytechnic H. " B"	61
4		Polytechnic H.	63
5		Essex B	67
6		Highgate H.	85
7		Surrey W.C.	86
8		Walton A.C.	135
9		Trowbridge	181
10		Surrey A.C.	202
11		E. Sussex Police	217

Information courtesy of Race Walking Record