

50th London to Brighton Walk 6th Sep 1975

An entry of well over 100 and 98 starters promised to produce one of the best races in recent years. This proved to be the case although the winner, Ray Middleton, was outside 8 hours. However he recorded an excellent time to retain his title and surely stake his claim as the next best distance walker Britain has produced to Don Thompson, since the war.

There was a good turn-out at Westminster to see the start and set the large field on its way. Frontmarkers at Croydon were Lawton and Middleton of Belgrave Harriers with Weston of Highgate, Boxall of Brighton and Toehill of Yorkshire all showing well. By half way Lawton and Middleton were both still pushing the pace with Boxall third, Toehill fourth, our own Nolan Simmons was having the race of his life with Ken Harding of Royal Sutton Coldfield also coming through strongly. The foreigners were also showing well with Eddie Michael and Van Sensie from South Africa walking steadily.

Ray Middleton continued walking strongly to win some six minutes ahead of fast finishing Ken Harding who walked a storming second half. Poor Carl Lawton had another recurrence of his leg trouble and had to quit when lying third with only eight miles to go. Dave Boxall walked his usual sound race for third place and a magnificent challenge from Nolan Simmons for fourth place, well under 8 1/2 hours. Nolan's improvement this year has been good and we all hope his country will consider him for the Olympic 20 kilos walk, his efforts over the past years need rewarding.

Eddie Michael had an excellent race for sixth spot and nice to see him back racing so well. A host of other good performances and no less than six in the first 30 completed in the Club's 100 only two months previous, Boxall, Tranter, Worth, Davitt, Dennis Vale and Keith Read. This shows a lot for the strength of character of distance walkers. There were another seven in fact who finished in both races. The team race once more proved exciting with Belgrave Harriers proving too strong for us and a very gallant effort by Verlea AC.

For the Club, Dennis Vale and Keith Read had sound races whilst Lyn Atterbury had a blinder enjoying every minute and getting stronger as every mile passed. Poor Bernard Imber found it tough going but learnt a hell of a lot for future distance races. Our other competitors Brooker, Moule, Corne, Hallifax, Salthill and Nickolls all had satisfactory results and were able to finish a " B " team.

Finally, we cannot pass this report without mentioning the performances of three hardy stalwarts, John Henderson, Eddie McNier and George Wood, they continue to amaze all. A big vote of thanks to Nick Groon for the work he put into the event which went off smoothly.

Results:

Position	Initial	Surname	Club	Hour	Min	Sec
1	R	Middleton	Belgrave Harriers	8	10	27
2	K	Harding	Royal Sutton C	8	16	43
3	D	Boxall	Brighton & Hove	8	19	01
4	N	Simmons	S. W. C.	8	27	36
5	J	Toehill	York R. W. C.	8	44	11
6	E	Michael	South Africa	8	49	02
7	P	Worth	Verlea A.C.	8	50	22
8	D	Harrison	Boundary H	8	51	31
9	J	Dunsford	Belgrave Harriers	8	53	50
10	C	Weston	Highgate Harriers	8	54	50
11	D	Read	Steyning AC	9	09	00
12	G	Robinson	Boro of Enfield	9	09	40
13	R	Purkis	Verlea AC	9	10	11

14	F	Thomas	Trinidad & Tobago	9	13	07
15	G	Tranter	Royal Sutton C	9	14	58
16	L	Atterbury	S. W. C.	9	18	20
17	A	James	Boro of Enfield	9	19	40
18	A	Geal	Steyning A.C.	9	21	26
19	D	King	Belgrave Harriers	9	22	47
20	S	Van Sensie	South Africa	9	24	59
21	J	Hedgethorne	Essex Police	9	25	00
22	J	Eddershaw	Sheffield U.H.	9	25	50
23	M	Davitt	Cambridge Harriers	9	27	05
24	D	Vale	S. W. C.	9	27	48
25	E	Shillabeer	London Vidarians	9	31	09
26	J	Moullin	Belgrave Harriers	9	13	19
27	K	Read	S. W. C.	9	31	34
28	B	Saunders	Brighton & Hove	9	37	29
29	W	Pilgrim	Verlea A.C	9	38	08
30	A	Peters	L.A.T. Holland	9	39	05
31	S	Lightman	Metro W.C.	9	44	42
32	D	Picton	York R. W. C.	9	45	36
33	R	Gunnett	Verlea A.C	9	45	56
34	T	Moore	Bristol R.W.C	9	46	30
35	T	Riley	Ilford A.C	9	46	30
36	J	Morris	Belgrave Harriers " B "	9	47	20
37	J	Keown	Belgrave Harriers " B "	9	47	20
38	P	Dicks	Highgate Harriers	9	48	20
39	T	Blogg	Yorks Postal R.W.C	9	48	46
40	B	Imber	S. W. C.	9	49	26
41	P	Emery	Boro of Enfield	9	50	56
42	D	Jackson	Yorks Postal R.W.C	9	51	12
43	B	Gomersall	York R. W. C.	9	52	46
44	D	Sharpe	Newham A.C.	9	53	08
45	K	Roost	Verlea A.C	9	53	44
46	F	Baker	Highgate Harriers	9	54	38
47	M	Barnbrook	Cambridge Harriers	9	55	17
48	M	Gleed	London Vidarians	9	55	21
50	R	Vlotman	Brighton & Hove	10	02	00
51	G	Brooker	S. W. C.	10	02	10
52	P	Briggs	Yorks R.W.C	10	02	56
53	M	Turner	Brighton & Hove	10	06	11
54	A	Blatchford	Epsom & Ewell H	10	09	27
55	F	Moule	S. W. C.	10	09	54
56	D	Rose	Cambridge Harriers	10	11	13
57	C	Bean	Steyning A.C.	10	12	46
58	D	Ainsworth	Ilford A.C	10	18	37
59	T	Tidy	Steyning A.C.	10	31	45

60	R	Corne	S. W. C.	10	33	45
61	L	Schol	L.A.T. Holland	10	35	37
62	G	Hallifax	S. W. C.	10	43	02
63	H	Dorras	Metro W	10	45	38
64	T	Salthill	S. W. C.	10	47	23
65	J	Henderson	Steyning A.C.	10	48	07
66	J	Rossiter	Boro of Enfield	10	51	31
67	J	Hurley	London Vidarians	11	00	32
68	F	Nickolls	S. W. C.	11	09	42
69	E	McNeir	Cambridge Harriers	11	28	08
70	B	Ashmead	Bristol R.W.C	11	34	33
71	A	Sargent	Worcester A.C	11	35	05
72	G	Wood	Southend A.C	11	39	17
73	H	Hermanson	South Africa	11	41	00

Team	Position	Club	Points
1		Belgrave Harriers	36
2		S.W.C	45
3		Verlea A.C.	54
4		York R. W. C.	87
5		Brighton & Hove	87
6		Boro of Enfield	89
7		Steyning A.C.	96
8		Cambridge Harriers	128
9		S.W.C 'B'	167

Trophies

Ditty Cup N. Simmons
 Cousins Trophy B. Imber
 Elaine Trophy D. Vale