

## 52nd London to Brighton Walk 3rd Sep 1977

Two occurrences made this years Brighton memorable, John Lees superb walk to break eight hours and the presence of Giani Carlo of Italy, winner of the race in 1927, over here to celebrate fifty years since that victory. At the end of this report is published a letter from the Vice-President General of Giani's club Societa Ginnastica Comense 1872. He was at the finish to see many finishers in and also attended the reception.

John Lees dominated the race from the start. Moulinet of France and recent winner of the Hastings-Brighton, and Ray Middleton stayed with him for about fifteen miles but then Lees really put on the pressure. He passed 50 Kms. in 4 hours 33 sees and increased his lead all the way to Brighton to win in the excellent time of 7 hrs. 54 mins 32 sees, and so join the elite ' 8 hour' club. A truly magnificent performance by John, who it may be remembered holds the Cross-America walk record and has also a number of Internationals at 50 Kms.

Moulinet hung on gamely but could not make any impression on the leader. However, he recorded a time that would have won most years. A good year this has been for the Frenchman which includes selection for the French team in the Lugano Cup Final at 50 Kms.

Ken Harding, whose age is a secret, but he is well into his mid-forties, again came through strongly. Earlier this year he broke the Manchester to Blackpool record (about 51.25 miles) and is surely in line for a Brighton win soon.

Ray Middleton, although having a none too happy time, stuck it well for fourth place and Heywood of Leicester also produced another steady walk. Nolan Simmons recorded a good time although he was disappointed. He suffered with leg trouble for a lot of the way and it was found out afterwards that he had a minor fracture to the left ankle. John Laing never faltered and was only just outside first class standard. Tom Gates and Pat Browning completed our 'A' team by both being inside second class standard and producing good performances.

Newcomer Graham Peddle seemed to revel in the distance and really pushed home to beat ten hours a worthy effort on his first Brighton. Our other finisher was Bill King who comfortably got down in just over 10 1/2 hours. Our congratulations also to those real veterans George Woods and Eddie McNeir, both walked without fuss or bother to beat twelve hours. Leicester won the team race the first time for thirty years with Belgrave Harriers second and Brighton a close third. Another good Brighton with first class organisation by Colin Harding. A big thank you to all who helped before, during and after the race. Let us now look forward to Brighton 1978.

### Results:

Position	Initial	Surname	Club	Hour	Min	Sec
1	J.	Lees	Brighton	07	54	32
2	A.	Moulinet	Paris	08	08	11
3	K.	Harding	R.S.C.	08	19	07
4	R.	Middleton	Belgrave	08	23	45
5	J.	Heywood	Leicester	08	30	06
6	P.	Norden	Heidelberg	08	33	09
7	D.	Harrison	Boundary H.	08	35	52
8	P.	Worth	Enfield	08	45	40
9	N.	Simmons	Surrey	08	46	31
10	M.	Heyda	Heidelberg	08	47	28
11	C.	Berwick	Leicester	08	54	27
12	D.	Boxall	Brighton	08	59	20
13	L.	Colver	Leicester	09	10	42
14	E.	Shillabeer	Dawlish	09	11	33

15	D.	Bolton	S. Yorks Police	09	11	34
16	D.	King	Belgrave	09	18	54
17	J.	Laing	Surrey	09	19	22
18	L.	Holton	Leicester	09	20	15
19	J.	May	Metropolitan	09	22	13
20	R.	Day	Belgrave	09	23	28
21	D.	Gunn	Brighton	09	26	37
22	L.	Ruddock	Ilford	09	31	15
23	E.	Holmquist	Highgate	09	39	09
24	D.	Wyrra	Newham	09	41	17
25	S.	Alvarez	Trinidad	09	44	14
26	E.	Warner	Leicester	09	47	31
27	W.	Winstone	Trowbridge	09	47	52
28	L.	Addams	Dawlish	09	48	51
29	K.	Roost	Enfield	09	50	22
30	G.	Dowling	Yorks	09	51	05
31	A.	Gates	Surrey	09	51	17
32	P.	Bottais	France	09	52	30
33	J.	Keown	Belgrave	09	53	22
34	P.	Browning	Surrey	09	54	20
35	D.	Jones	Leicester	09	55	56
36	G.	Peddie	Surrey	09	59	30
37	B.	Saunders	Brighton	10	09	03
38	F.	Baker	Highgate	10	10	53
39	L.	Gibbins	Southend	10	13	29
40	A.	Brooks	Yorks	10	22	33
41	T.	Tidy	Steyning	10	30	36
42	F.	Denny	Cambridge	10	31	11
43	W.	King	Surrey	10	33	33
44	M.	Parks	Bristol	10	35	10
45	P.	Briggs	Yorks	10	42	49
46	K.	Till	Crawley	10	51	13
47	K.	Ward	Dawlish	11	04	15
48	M.	Turner	Brighton	11	10	25
49	C.	Hayes	Cambridge	11	20	16
50	K.	Booth	Enfield	11	37	06
51	G.	Woods	Southend	11	41	29
52	B.	McNeir	Cambridge	11	58	56

Team	Position	Club	Points
1		Leicester Walking Club	28
2		Belgrave Harriers	42
3		Brighton & Hove A.C	44
4		Surrey Walking Club	53

**Trophies**

Harry Preston Cup	P. WORTH
Dithy Cup	N. SIMMONS
Cousins Memorial Bowl	G. PEDDIE
Elaine Trophy	Not Awarded