**Wimbledon to Richmond, Wednesday 16th May 2012**

16 walkers, 7.5 miles – leader Roderick Smith

A group of 16 met at Wimbledon Station on a sunny evening. We walked up Wimbledon Hill to Southside House, and Andy joined us at Cannizaro House. The group crossed the Common to Robin Hood Gate before walking past Dorich House to Isabella Plantation. The azaleas were a splendid multi-coloured sight; definitely worth the walk. Two left to return home nearby, and the group continued to King Henry’s Mound for the dramatic view of St Paul’s Cathedral. We descended to Petersham Gate and saw Captain Vancouver’s grave before crossing the meadow to walk beside the river into Richmond. The Queen’s Jubilee pageant barge was moored near Richmond Bridge in final stages of preparation. After a brief inspection the group completed the walk at The White Swan where most went in for food and drink. An enjoyable opening SEW of 7.5 miles in 2.25 hours.