**Richmond Circular, Wednesday 18th May 2016**

11 walkers, 7 miles – leader Peter Russell

I checked out the walk earlier on in the day when the dog and I were rained on. The evening walk was dry and dog-free.

At the Buccleuch riverside gardens we stepped through the grotto arches to see the statue of Father Thames. I set a quiz to identify 2 differences compared to the same statue at Ham House.

Richmond Park had a smattering of late bluebells under the ancient trees and many May trees were in full bloom. The Ham Woods and the Ham Avenues were fresh green compared to two weeks ago.

On our return leg some photographs of the Thames in late sunshine were taken.

We obtained the long table in the Waterman's Arms in good time to watch the 3 anti-Liverpool goals, eat Thai food and drink some perfect Young's bitter.

P.S. Paul Lawrence, annoyingly, got the 2 differences between the 2 Father Thames statues correct. The Ham one is intact whereas the Richmond cast has lost his left hand and big toe. Paul won no prize as the quiz master had a made a false assumption (missing right foot at Ham).

Photographs by Keith Lane and Paul Lawrence