**Alton’s Northern Territories, Saturday 24th September 2016**

17 walkers and one dog, 19.6 miles – leader Jerome Ripp

A fine late summer day, perfect weather for an enjoyable walk in the quiet woods and commons of Hampshire. We were soon out of Alton on a lovely hilltop where we did a circuit to fully appreciate the glorious views. Any suggestion that the leader had made a mistake were of course quite inaccurate. Morning break at Shaldon church where we followed briefly the route of the Wessex 100 in reverse, which some of the group had done. Through the village of Bentworth and on to Bradley where we followed some of the 3 Castles Way which runs from Windsor to Winchester. More woods before a well-deserved late lunch after 12.6 miles at Herriard. A renegade group of 6 decided to leave early; the rest of us went at a cracking pace covering 7 miles in just over 2 hours via Shaldon again and another stretch of the “100” to return to Alton via Anstey and in time for the 16.44 train. Much enjoyed by the group, especially the few extra’s "off piste” that the leader though in from time to time to keep everyone on their toes!

Photographs by Gavin Fuller