**To the End of the Line, Saturday 22nd October 2016**

21 walkers, 19 miles – leader Ron Williamson

Ron could not have chosen a more perfect Autumn day, beautiful sunrise as I walked to Fenchurch Station & beautiful sunset as we walked into Southend on Sea. In between, warm in the sun but decidedly fresh when it clouded over.

The walk in Ron’s "Back Yard" started at Thorpe Bay adjoining Southend on Sea and finished at Southend on Sea i.e. a linear circular walk.

The morning we walked through Garon Park and pass Mucking Hall lunching at the Castle Inn, Little Wakering. The Publican allowed us to eat our sandwiches in the garden and even provided swings and other amusements for us to ignore.

In the afternoon we headed for Oxenham Farm and followed the coast path through MOD land passing Haven Point, the mouth of the Thames, and Wakering Stairs, start of the Broomway. Then along to Shoeburyness with its North Sea beach and finally, as the sun was setting, beside the glistening Thames Estuary to Southend Pier.

Resisting Ron's "Pier" pressure some of us headed for the station whilst others weakened and joined Ron to add another 2.5 miles by walking to the end of the pier & back.

Unfortunately, the Pier was closed so the Pier Party headed for fish & chips – the end of a perfect day. Nice one Ron.

Report & photographs by Keith Lane