**Tring Circular, Sunday 5th March 2017**

10 walkers, 20 miles – leader Steve Plested

Despite the rather grim weather forecast 10 hardy souls joined me at Tring, it was raining at first but as we walked along the canal the clouds broke up and 2 kingfishers were spotted just as the sun came out.

We walked along the canal for a couple of miles with the towpath gradually getting more muddy, and then ventured on to the Aylesbury ring and open countryside, generally sunny and rather breezy but the threatening clouds seemed to keep passing us by fortunately.

We saw a number of hares racing around and the occasional roe deer in the distance with red kites above at times. The going underfoot was generally ok but with the odd field of clinging mud just to make things more interesting.

After a late lunch in a barn on a pick your own farm (obviously not open for trade) we headed for the sting in the tail and the first proper bit of rain. The ups and downs of the ridgeway path and plenty more mud beginning with a steep ascent to Ivinghoe Beacon which reduced some members to their hands and knees, but it was worth it for the views, or so most said.  There were a few falls due to the slippery conditions but all eventually arrived safely back at Tring.

Photographs by Godfrey O'Callaghan