**Escape from Romford, Wednesday 9th November 2016**

6 walkers including one guest, 11 miles – leader Ron Williamson

The forecasted weather for today suggested that it would be a good time to assess the effectiveness of our waterproof gear. Six staunch walkers agreed to take part in the research, with at least one other, known to the leader, declining the offer.

A variety of rain ware was evident as we departed Romford station at 10:40 but alas within 400 yds. the rain ceased only to appear spasmodically throughout the day.

Our route soon entered Lodge Farm Park, virgin territory to all including the leader, and then onwards through Raphael Park, Rise Park and into Bedfords Park with its first class information centre and tea rooms.

Suitably refreshed we headed for the historic village of Havering Atte Bower from where the London LOOP was followed through Havering Country Park into Hainault Forest.

Another refreshment stop at the cafe by the lake and it was time for the final two miles to Dave’s home territory, making time to divert through Hainault Recreation Ground and the county park of Fairlop Waters before finishing naturally at the local Wetherspoons about 15:15.

Unfortunately waterproofs were not tested! so this task is reluctantly passed on to the next group of admirable volunteers.