**“Wimpole”, Saturday 20th May 2017**

14 walkers, 20 miles – leader Roderick Smith

A group of 14 assembled at Royston Station, leaving there at 09.55 to walk south into the town and west to leave the town. Turning north-west we crossed the railway line and the Royston by-pass followed by several large fields to reach Litlington. The village church contained a memorial window for a US Air Force Squadron based nearby.  On via Down Hall Farm to Abington Pigotts for coffee at the Pig & Abbot.  Under-used footpaths via Shingay took us to Croydon where the village church had a memorial tablet to the Downing family, an interesting window featuring Judas, and in the churchyard, a more recent burial, Colin Pillinger of Beagle 2 fame. 2pm arrival at Wimpole Hall for a sandwich lunch, before a heavy shower. One person decided to walk a slightly longer route home to Cambridge, but another caught the group having been delayed by traffic from joining at the start. Headed south through the 2-mile Bridgeman avenue, originally of elm trees, now comprising several hundred limetrees, and then on the Harcamlow Way via Whaddon and Ermine Street back to Royston Station. A brisk pace covering 31kms, slightly less than 20 miles, in just under 7 hours including an hour for all stops.

Photographs by Roderick Smith; more photographs by Gavin Fuller on the group Facebook page