**Rickmansworth Circular, Sunday 28th January 2018**

21 walkers, 19 miles – leader Godfrey O’Callaghan

21 people turned out for the walk from Rickmansworth on Sunday. The day started dull and cloudy and mainly stayed that way except for a couple of hours earlier on. The walk first headed through the town, stopping to take in the Wetherspoon’s on the way - named after William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, who once lived in Rickmansworth High Street. From there it was on to the canal before turning uphill and inland by way of Croxley Green. A navigational error at one point took us through a private wood where we found the most magnificent display of Snowdrops where followed a polite conversation with the lady of the manor on who’s estate we had blundered. On then, across an open landscape to Church End where we had a short break and some lucky enough to be offered spare coffee at the church. From there we dropped down to the Chess Valley before climbing to Chorleywood common and The Swillet. Further on we passed a construction site for HS2. Lunch was in the open overlooking one of the many lakes along the valley. Water birds provided some good entertainment. The route then joined the Hillingdon trail and, a little later, the London Loop where some worthwhile mud was found. A descent of Moor Park golf course proved a fitting finale, crossing clean earth and passing the stunning Grade I listed Palladian mansion, now the Moor Park Golf Club club house. Once more back in Rickmansworth data from various devices was discussed and a consensus reached that the distance was 19 miles - or as near as dammit!

Photographs by Godfrey O'Callaghan; more by Emma Hope Maccormick on the group Facebook page