**Sunningdale to Staines, Saturday 4th January 2020**

38 walkers, 18.5 miles – leader Kate Copeland

The morning was mostly within the grounds of Windsor Great Park, thus many of the sights to behold were royal in nature - Virginia Water (possibly named after the Virgin Queen), the Queen's Totem Pole, Duke of Cumberland's Obelisk (where we stopped for elevenses and the leader's time-keeping was rightly held to account), the Royal Lodge and then on to the Copper Horse.

We were disappointed not to see any deer in the deer park, however this was quickly forgotten as we basked in the brilliant sunshine and blue skies that burst out halfway down the Long Walk. There was some discussion about how long the Long Walk is. A quick internet search suggests it is 2.65 miles. The group was clearly ready for lunch as they covered this distance in 35 minutes!

Two of our number left us at Windsor. However, Carol joined us which was a lovely surprise.

The low, winter sunshine stayed with us until dusk which meant that the Thames between Windsor and Staines was looking its prettiest. The weeping willows were almost fluorescent in the light.

We arrived into Staines at about 4.45pm and deposited several of the team at their second Wetherspoon's of the day. The rest eschewed tea in favour of the train back to London.

Photographs by Gavin Fuller; more by Gavin and Stephen Lannon on the group Facebook site.